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**COBBETT'S**  
**WEEKLY REGISTER.**

.....  
**VOLUME LVIII.**

**FROM APRIL TO JUNE, 1826.**  
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FROM APRIL TO JUNE 1836

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1836

TO THE  
ALBANY  
REGISTER

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# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

VOL. 58.—No. 1.] LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1826. [Price 6d.



The law is, that *every man* shall pay his debts in gold and silver. The law is, that *every bank* shall pay its notes in gold and silver. The law is, that no *paper money*, of any sort, is a *legal tender*. The law is, that, if any banker tender you Bank of England paper, and refuse to give you sovereigns, for his notes, you may refuse the notes, and *bring an action* against the banker, and that if the notes which you present for payment amounts to ten pounds, or upwards, you may *arrest* the banker, who thus attempts to shuffle you off with Bank of England notes. The law is, that *silver* is *legal tender* to the amount of *forty shillings*, but to no higher amount. This is *the law*, relating to these matters; and, therefore, if men be ruined, or even starved, in consequence of their holding bank notes, the fault is *their own*, and not that of the law or the government.

TO

## THE PEOPLE OF ESSEX.

### ON THE DANGERS ATTENDING PAPER-MONEY.

Kensington, 29th March, 1826.

MY FRIENDS,

THERE is this good in *suffering*, that it has a tendency to make men *wiser* than they were before they suffered; and, supposing you to be like other men, I may, I hope, congratulate you on a vast increase of wisdom, in the course of the last four months. But, still I

deem it my duty to address you on the dangers attending paper-money, and to endeavour to induce you to rely on no sort of money, except *the King's coin*, a piece of which his Ministers have expressed their desire *that every poor man should have in his pocket*. I address myself to you in particular, because certain

A

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

transactions in your county point you out to me as persons who are, just at this time, peculiarly liable to be deceived. You have seen a great deal of the breaking of banks; you have seen also a great deal of the efforts to prop them up; you have felt the effects of this banking work, which has ruined many thousands of you; but, still, you want to know a little more of the nature of the thing, called a *bank*.

You find people enough to say, that "*banks are very good things*," that "*the notes are a great accommodation*"; and the like. Strange assertions! Can bank-notes cause the land to produce food? Can they *create* any thing? No; but, they can, and they do, cause one man's property to pass to another, without the latter giving any thing for it. They can cause enormous robbery, and screen the robber from punishment. Suppose me to be a banker; suppose me *to have put nothing into my bank*; suppose me to get a horse from a farmer and to pay him in some of my notes, knowing, at the same time, that my notes represent no property at all. Why should I, if I can get a horse in this way, run the risk of being hanged for horse-stealing? Of what use are a banker

and his people to the public? They do no work of any sort; they produce nothing, nor do they improve the worth of any thing that is produced by others. "They toil not, neither do they spin"; and, if not "*arrayed quite like SOLOMON in all his glory*," I strongly suspect, that Solomon, in all his glory, never had, at any one time, so large a quantity of "*FINE OLD WINES*" as is now advertised for sale at the house of your late banker, Mr. CRICKITT; and, I could almost venture to take my oath, that SOLOMON never spent *ten thousand pounds on an election*, and that, too, taken by him out of a bank, in which he had not one single farthing.

Here, my friends, is one of the great causes of the sufferings of this nation; one great cause of the increase of the paupers, of the thefts, of the size of the gaols, poor-houses, mad-houses, and of those horrid scenes of deplorable misery and starvation, which we daily behold. *Somebody* must lose, *somebody* must suffer, in consequence of the gains of those who thrive by paper-money; and, at last, a large part of this suffering falls on the *working class*. Mr. CRICKITT, in his examination, is, in the newspapers, re-

ported to have stated, that he was a banker eighteen years, and that, after the first year, he never had a farthing in the bank; that he was continually *in its debt* for seventeen years; and yet, that, in the eighteen years, he received *fifty-seven thousand pounds as his share of the profits of the bank!* So that, if he, at last, pay 20s. to the pound, even if he do this, he has got 57,000*l.* for nothing; for, he had no money in the bank; he did not work, nor did the bank work; he got other men's money, or goods, in exchange for his bits of paper; as long as he was not called upon for real money back again, the holders of his bits of paper fancied they had so much money; but, when he was called upon for that real money, *he could not give it.* How should he, when he had spent it at elections, or had eaten, or drunk, or worn, or otherwise disposed of, the worth of it?

But, suppose that a banker *never broke, never stopped*, still his trade must be an enormous evil. He puts out paper, for which he gets other men's goods, and the paper costs him next to nothing. It is not value for value; but, it is value for nothing. - No matter that he has property elsewhere. That property brings him

rent, or profit. It has nothing to do with his bank notes. He gets by them without the use of any property; and, that which he gets somebody must lose. Sir WILLIAM ELFORD, at Plymouth, has confessed, that he, for many years, received a third part of the profits of the Bank, and that he never had any capital employed in the business. He was, a great part of the time, a Member of Parliament, he was a Colonel of Volunteers, Pitt made him a Baronet, he was a Justice of the Peace, he was Recorder of Plymouth, he was 32 years receiving profits from the bank, he and his son borrowed of the bank forty thousand pounds, and he never, in his life, had a single farthing in the bank, or in its business. This is his own statement, before the Commissioners, as published in the newspapers. It seems, that 24,000*l.* out of the 40,000*l.* were paid back; but, there are all his profits for 32 years, - and the 16,000*l.* besides, still remaining as money got for nothing.

Suppose me to issue a parcel of notes to buy a farm with. Suppose me to give a man 10,000*l.* in my notes for a farm. The man pays them away, and they continue out for eight years. Suppose this. I have the farm and

its rents all this time *for nothing*; and, if the farm yield 5 per cent., I get 4,600*l.* *for nothing*. I took a ten-pound note the other day, to GURNEY'S Bank at Norwich, which had been out nearly eight years, and they had gained 4*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* *by that one single ten-pound note!* And, how does this work as to the *people at large*? Why, it produces loss to *somebody*; it works down, through the different classes, till it reaches the working class, and that class it squeezes into the poor-houses and the gaols; and, as the paper-money increases, the size of the poor-houses and that of the gaols increase. If a rag-rook lend his notes to farmer *Stump*, for instance, to the amount of 100*l.* for a year, *STUMP* pays the rook 5 pounds for the use of his notes. *STUMP* squeezes the 5*l.* out of his labourers, or tradesmen; or, it works in another way; he keeps his produce from market *till it will sell for 5*l.* more in the hundred*; and, thus the people, who eat the produce, finally pay the 5*l.* which *STUMP* paid to the rook.

People of Essex, after these more general remarks, let me come to your affair of SPARROW and Co. You know, that, on the 24th of February, a great number

of people, calling themselves *gentlemen*, published their names to a declaration of confidence in, and of their guarantee of, this Sparrow's notes. You know, that, in only SIX DAYS after that, the bank of SPARROW and Co. STOPPED! You know, that, in consequence of this, another meeting of the "*gentlemen*" took place. That which passed at *this meeting* is very well worthy of your best attention. We, in London, were charmed with the *generosity* of a Mr. ANDREWS, who put his name down for 4,000*l.* *slap!* We concluded, that this must have been some near relation of SPARROW. Alas! the mystery is explained by the fact, that he is *Receiver General for the county!* The Chelmsford Chronicle, of the 10th of March, gives the following account of what passed at the meeting, relative to this curious part of these transactions—"Mr. ANDREWS remarked, that at the "last meeting he had made an "offer, which was accepted, by "the actual deposit of a certain "sum of money (4,000*l.*) for the "immediate assistance of the "bank; *he had hoped that other "gentlemen would have come forward in a similar manner*; "they had done so in part only, "as they had not fully effected

"the object in view. (*Cheers.*) In  
 "consequence of the present state  
 "of the bank, inconvenience  
 "might arise to the country at  
 "large. He was placed in the  
 "situation of Receiver General  
 "of part of the county, and *if con-*  
 "*fidences should not be restored to*  
 "*the Bank of Sparrow and Co.*  
 "previous to his next receipt, he  
 "could take nothing but Bank of  
 "England notes and sovereigns,  
 "which he thought would be a  
 "great inconvenience to many.  
 "Gentlemen should therefore  
 "come forward and render their  
 "assistance, until the affairs of  
 "the bank were arranged to the  
 "satisfaction of the public.—Mr.  
 "GEPP observed that he would  
 "willingly afford, to the utmost  
 "of his power, support to the  
 "Bank of Sparrow and Co., and  
 "he believed the disposition was  
 "universal among those gentle-  
 "men present, *but unfortunately*  
 "*they were not all in the situation*  
 "*of Receiver General*; and the  
 "state of the country was such,  
 "that those who had a desire to  
 "do so, did not possess the means.  
 "—Mr. ANDREWS felt somewhat  
 "offended at what he considered  
 "an insinuation that he advanced  
 "the 4,000*l.* in the character of  
 "Receiver General, and *with*  
 "*some warmth* declared that it

"was not from the Government  
 "purse, but from *his own*, that he  
 "had contributed to the public  
 "convenience."

Indeed! Why, then, Mr. AN-  
 DREWS is not like DUNDAS, who  
 gave TEN THOUSAND POUNDS to  
 the voluntary subscription for car-  
 rying on the late war, but, as it  
 was afterwards discovered, gave  
 it out of the *public money*! Mr.  
 GEPP, too, is, I fancy, a *Distri-*  
 "*butor of Stamps* in Essex, and a  
 Captain or Major of *Volunteers*.  
 So that, nothing in the world  
 could be more amiable and pub-  
 lic-spirited than all this. But,  
 what is more interesting to you,  
 People of Essex, is *the state of*  
 "*the bank's accounts*. I shall copy  
 this statement from the same news-  
 paper, and then call upon you to  
 exercise your caution for the  
 future.

The accountant said, that he  
 had been *pressed for time*; but  
 that he *believed*, the statement to  
 be correct. The statement was,  
 that the bankers were "indebted  
 "to persons upon interest notes,  
 "payable at a certain number of  
 "days, at Braintree, 71,290*l.*, at  
 "Chelmsford, 21,949*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*,  
 "making a total of 92,239*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*  
 "Their promissory notes in circu-  
 "lation at Braintree, amounted  
 "to 31,000*l.*, at Chelmsford,

"to 29,900*l.*, making a total of  
 "60,900*l.* The total debits to the  
 "Bank, exclusive of the capital  
 "of the Partners, was 294,342*l.*  
 "1*9s.* 11*d.* The assets of the  
 "Bank, were for overdrawn ac-  
 "counts, at Braintree, 62,316*l.*—  
 "at Chelmsford, 68,587*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*;  
 "total of overdrawn accounts,  
 "130,903*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* There were  
 "Promissory Notes and Bills in  
 "the hands of the Bank, on which  
 "they had lent money, at Brain-  
 "tree, 8,800*l.*, at Chelmsford,  
 "49,174*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*; total 57,474*l.*  
 "4*s.* 9*d.* The Bills in the hands  
 "of Barclay and Co., available  
 "to the Creditors, were from  
 "Braintree, 26,000*l.*, — from  
 "Chelmsford, 40,000*l.*; total,  
 "66,000*l.*; to which might be  
 "added Bills in the hands of Mr.  
 "Sanderson, the bill broker,  
 "22,000*l.*; which made the total,  
 "88,000*l.* The cash in the Brain-  
 "tree Bank was 11,142*l.*, at  
 "Chelmsford Bank, 10,500*l.*,  
 "and at Messrs. Barclays, 12,000*l.*  
 "total of cash, 33,642*l.* There  
 "were stamps which were equal  
 "to cash, at Chelmsford, 500*l.*,  
 "at Braintree, 500*l.*; total 1,000*l.*  
 "There was also a partnership  
 "sharehold at Braintree, estimated  
 "at 1,000*l.* The total of assets  
 "at the Bank was 312,019*l.* 6*s.*  
 "11*d.*; the total of debts owing,  
 "294,342*l.* 1*9s.* 11*d.*

Thus, there was a balance, in  
*favour of the bank*, of 18,000*l.*!  
 Why did it *stop*, then? But, let  
 us look at this matter a little more  
 closely. The *debt* is 294,000*l.*  
 Now, here are, you will observe,  
 294,000 SOVEREIGNS. Pray  
 mark that. *To pay* this debt, this  
 great number, this fearful number  
 of GOLD SOVEREIGNS is  
 absolutely necessary. And what  
 has the bank to pay it with?  
 Why, only 33,000*l.* in *cash*; the  
 rest of the 312,000*l.* is in *promissory notes*  
 in the hands of the  
 bank; in the amount of *overdrawn*  
*accounts*; and in the amount of  
*bills* in the hands of London bank-  
 ers and *bill-brokers*! So that,  
 WHEN ALL THESE ARE  
 PAID, the bank will have a ba-  
 lance, in its favour, of 18,000*l.*!  
 God forbid, that I should venture  
 to name *the time*, when that  
 WHEN is likely to be. And,  
 yet, one would think, that it ought  
 to come pretty quickly, seeing  
 that every-body is to be paid, and  
*the bank is to open again on the*  
 17th of April.

Let us now look at the state-  
 ment of the *private property* of  
 these bankers, which (according  
 to the report) was as follows:  
 "Mr. BRIDGES stated, that one  
 "incumbrance on Mr. Sparrow's  
 "estates, was 7000*l.* to provide

" for a settlement on Mr. Spar-  
 " row's first marriage with Miss  
 " Crow; there was also a marriage  
 " settlement of 1200*l.* per annum  
 " upon the present Mrs. Sparrow;  
 " which settlement, however, was  
 " made *subsequent* to the mar-  
 " riage; but if that circumstance  
 " was any defect, Mrs. Sparrow  
 " was entitled to dower on a con-  
 " siderable portion of Mr. Spar-  
 " row's estates. His estimate of  
 " the whole of Mr. Sparrow's pro-  
 " perty was 140,000*l.* — Mr.  
 " CHALK asked Mr. Bridges what  
 " was the amount of Mr. Spar-  
 " row's rental? Mr. Bridges said,  
 " *about* 3000*l.* per annum, besides  
 " what was in hand.—Mr. WAL-  
 " FORD next rose and observed,  
 " that he would willingly state  
 " the amount of the property  
 " which he possessed, but it must  
 " appear very humble after what  
 " had transpired, as regarded  
 " that of Mr. Sparrow, his partner.  
 " He (Mr. Walford) estimated his  
 " property at from 40 to 45,000*l.*:  
 " he wished it, however, to be un-  
 " derstood, that his landed pro-  
 " perty did not equal that amount,  
 " but it did nearly so. He had  
 " raised 17,000*l.* for the purposes  
 " of the Bank, and that sum was  
 " an incumbrance upon his pro-  
 " perty. There was also a rever-  
 " sionary interest of 3000*l.* to

" which it was liable; but he did  
 " not owe 100*l.* more than he had  
 " stated, in, all the world.—The  
 " CHAIRMAN here observed, that  
 " Mr. Simpson, another of the  
 " partners in the Bank, was in the  
 " town; that gentleman was also  
 " ready to give an account of his  
 " property, should it be required.  
 " He (Mr. Bramston) begged to  
 " offer his personal testimony, that  
 " Mr. Simpson, with that tender-  
 " ness of feeling, as well as good-  
 " ness of heart, which all his ac-  
 " quaintance knew him to possess,  
 " had craved the indulgence to be  
 " absent from the meeting unless  
 " his attendance was indispensa-  
 " bly necessary. But Mr. Simp-  
 " son was at the Bank, and was  
 " willing to give the fullest infor-  
 " mation of his property that might  
 " be required. (Much applause  
 " followed; and the good opinion  
 " expressed by the worthy Chair-  
 " man, as related to Mr. Simpson,  
 " seemed to be in unison with that  
 " of the whole meeting.)"

What land SPARROW has *in*  
*hand* we are not told; but a rental  
 of 3000*l.* a year, supposing all  
 to be freehold, is not worth more  
 than 90,000*l.* Then we are, in  
 the first place, to take 7000*l.*  
 from this; and after that 1200*l.*  
 a year on account of the settle-  
 ment on Mrs. SPARROW. This



leaves a rental of 1800*l.* a year, letting the 7000*l.* go for the *lands in hand*. At *thirty years' purchase*, this estate is, then, worth 54,000*l.*, that is to say, if land will, in six or eight months' time, *sell at as high a price as it would have sold at last year!* I observe, too, that Mr. BRIDGES says, ABOUT 3000*l.* a-year. In such a case, and coming from a person who knew *exactly* what the sum was, I do not like this word *about*. WALFORD estimates his property at *from forty to forty-five thousand*; but there are incumbrances to the amount of 17,000*l.* and 8000*l.* So that, even taking WALFORD at his own estimate, his clear property does not much exceed 20,000*l.* And this, too, observe, even if that property, amidst a general fall of prices, *will sell for as much as it would have sold for last year!* SIMPSON'S "*tenderness of feeling and goodness of heart*" restrained him from coming to give an account of his private property; and therefore my common sense bids me not to guess it to amount to any thing that would have made a very grand show. Here, then, with all possible allowances for *high prices* of this property, is private property to the amount of 74,000*l.* And, if *prices continue to fall*, who will

venture to say, that, if actually sold, it would bring nearly that sum? However, suppose the property sold, and for the 74,000*l.* Then you may add this sum to the 33,000*l.* in *cash*, which make 107,000*l.*, and the rest of the 294,000*l.* is to come out of *overdrawn accounts*, the *promissory notes*, and the *bills*. Out of these things are to come 187,000 of SOVEREIGNS IN GOLD! All these accounts, notes, and bills, are evidences of debts due to the bank; but, they were contracted in *paper-money*. Will it be very easy to get them paid in gold? Here is a large lot of sovereigns to collect: they would weigh nearly A TON AND A HALF, and would, of course, be a load for a *narrow-wheeled wagon!* So that, my friends, if you see such a wagon, coming into CHELMSFORD, and hear a great *chinking* as the wagon goes along, begin to dance and sing, and run with your little bits of paper, blessing the wagon as you go.

But, whenever this shall take place, my advice to you is, not to be content with the *sight* of the wagon, nor even with that of the *bags*. Follow the wholesome advice of the King's Ministers, and get each of you "*a piece of gold*"

*in your pocket.*" How many calamities would you have avoided, if you had done this long ago! And, to say the truth, your losses are all of your own creating. The law is, that every banker shall pay his notes in gold, if the sum exceed 40s. and that sum, or a less sum, *he may pay in silver.* But, Bank of England notes are not a legal tender, from any banker, or from the Bank of England. And, if any banker refuse to pay in gold and silver, you may bring an action against him, if the notes amount to 40s. and you may arrest him, if they amount to ten pounds. This is the law. There are impudent bankers to say that it is not the law; but, demand gold, follow the good advice of the King's Ministers, and you will have a piece of gold in your pockets, and may laugh at those who hold what the same Ministers justly call, "*worthless rags.*" If SPARROW has 61,000*l.* of notes after all the runs, what must there have been, in the whole kingdom, before the runs took place? The bare thought of this is sufficient to convince any reasonable creature, that such a system must be productive of dreadful explosions and still more dreadful calamity. Neither you nor I can prevent these. But you

and I and every man have it in our power to secure ourselves against injury from the breaking of banks. We have it in our power to refuse to take bank notes of any sort; and, if we take them, we have it in our power to compel those who have issued them to pay us in gold. The law offers us protection; and, if we be such cowards as to be afraid to demand what the law awards us, we richly deserve all the pains and penalties of cold, rags, hunger and thirst.

I am your Friend,  
WM. COBBETT.

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#### DINNER AT NORWICH.

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I NOTIFIED in the Register some little time ago, that I should dine at Norwich on the 25th of March. I went to Norwich accordingly, and the dinner took place on that day. There were some gentlemen there from London, to take a report of the proceedings; and, reports have been published in the Morning Chronicle and in the Morning Herald, beyond all measure more correct than I could have thought possible. I went down for the purpose of talking to my friends at Norwich.

These gentlemen have made me talk to the whole country; and I am very much obliged to them for having so done. The beastly Old Times newspaper, which seems to be actually splitting with venom, has observed, that my speech was *made up out of the Register*. ANNA BRODIE is the very last person in the world that ought to complain of that; for, during the last four months, what has ANNA said, (which has been worth reading,) that she has not, in the most barefaced manner, *purloined from that same Register*. ANNA is like the Rooks; she draws out of the bank without having put any thing into it; and she is angry with me, because I merely draw out of my own deposits!

ANNA is incorrect, however; for, there was a great deal of matter in this speech or talk, which had never been in the Register at all; and that the reader will perceive, when he has read it. I shall insert it here as I find it in these newspapers, making only three or four slight alterations, and these not of very great importance. In the Morning Chronicle, an error of the press has made me say, that the Cathedral at Norwich was the *conventicle* church of a priory. I said, or meant to say, the *conventual* church. There was a little mis-

take, in the same paper, respecting the case of Sir ROBERT WILSON, which I have put right in the reprint.

Besides, if the speech had been a mere string of sentences taken out of the Register, what objection could that have been to it? It is necessary to *repeat*, even in the same publication. Men forget that which they have read; and numbers are daily entering upon the stage of manhood. But, in the present case, as it has turned out, I was addressing myself to no very small part of the whole nation; to many thousands upon thousands who never read the Register at all. If there had been nothing else in this speech, there was the fact, relative to the *note presented at GURNEY'S Bank*. To have to state that fact alone was worth a journey to Norwich; and that fact has, in consequence of the reports given of the speech, been stated to the whole kingdom. A thing like that which we have to deal with, is not to be dealt with by ordinary means. We must make extraordinary exertions; and where the case calls for it, we must go to the spot.

With this preface I shall insert the report of the speech, and request, notwithstanding what ANNA BRODIE says, the attention of my readers to every part of it.

# DINNER TO MR. COBBETT, AT NORWICH.

[*Norwich, Saturday, March 25.*]

It having been announced by public advertisement, and in *The Weekly Register*, that Mr. Cobbett would meet his friends at dinner at the Bowling-green Inn, Norwich, on this day, it was expected that a considerable number of persons would be present: nor was this expectation disappointed, for Mr. Gurney (the landlord) provided a dinner for eighty persons; but, had the room been large enough to accommodate them, considerably more than that number would have sat down to dinner.

Mr. Cobbett arrived in Norwich about eleven o'clock in the morning, from the house of a friend where he had slept. It was thought that the want of employment amongst the operatives of this ancient city would have caused a large assemblage of persons round the inn; but whether it was that there was superior attraction in the booths and shows exhibiting at the other end of the town, or from what other cause we know not, there appeared no more stir or bustle than if no such meeting was expected.

At half-past three o'clock Sir T. Beevor, attended by Mr. Clarke, Mr. Cobbett, jun., Mr. Withers, and several other gentlemen, entered the dining-room. Sir T. Beevor took the chair, Mr. Cobbett sitting on his right; and the party, consisting of most respectable farmers and landowners, sat down to an excellent dinner. The cloth having been removed,

Sir T. Beevor rose and said—Gentlemen, I shall propose to you a toast, “The Debt—our firm and fast friend—the Debt” [applause].

The *Chairman* then rose and said—Gentlemen, in proposing the health of our excellent friend, Mr. Cobbett, and welcoming him once again to

this city, I feel joy and exultation in recollecting the triumph we achieved when he was last amongst us at St. Andrew's Hall, some three years since [applause]. What must now be Mr. Cobbett's feelings? what must be the feelings of every man who thought and acted with him upon that occasion, when they found his “prophecies,” his “false, his lying prophecies,” as they were then called, now brought into play? What must his opponents feel, when they find that those “prophecies” are, day after day, fulfilling, and likely to be still further fulfilled [hear, hear!]? Gentlemen, I cannot rejoice at the injuries which individuals suffer—I know that, in this disastrous crisis, many worthy and honourable men have suffered, and for them I feel sincerely sorry. But, if I were to tell you that I felt sorry for the great public disaster which has been brought about, I should be a most consummate hypocrite [hear, hear!]. On the contrary, I hope that the present state of things will yet go on, and I do so, because I trust and feel, that out of existing evil will come good [hear, hear!]. In proposing Mr. Cobbett's health, I shall leave it to yourselves to express the sense you entertain of his merits, and the pleasure you feel at meeting him again [applause]. I shall, therefore, give the “Health of Mr. Cobbett, with three times three [the toast was drunk with loud applause].” Silence having been obtained,

Mr. Cobbett rose, and was received by cheering and clapping of hands. He at length proceeded nearly as follows:—“Gentlemen, after thanking you for this additional mark of your friendship and esteem, I shall say a few words upon our present position, and proceed to point out the grounds which I think we have for rejoicing on the present occasion, and what I conceive will be the future situation and prospects of the *Rooks* [a laugh]. But, first, I must express my regret at hearing a

report current, that I attended here to-day with a view to encourage and promote the means of my being returned to Parliament. Nothing can be more mistaken than such an opinion. I have already said, and I now repeat, that I never shall enter the House of Commons by any act of my own; but least of all, will I, by any indirect or underhand conduct, obtain a seat there. Again, I have been told, that some misunderstanding has taken place with respect to the kind of dinner which I wished to have upon this occasion. When I made up my mind to meet my friends here, I never told any one, not even my friend Sir T. Bcevor, that intention; I merely inserted in *The Register* that I should like to dine at one of the inns at Norwich on such a day, intending to have a dinner which would cost two or three shillings, being aware, that if the dinner was to be upon a high scale, I should exclude, by the high price of tickets, a large number of that class of society whom I should be most anxious to meet upon such occasion [hear, hear, hear!]. Having said so much, I must add, that I fear I shall occupy your attention for a considerable time; and if I tire you, or any of you ["No, no!"], I hope you will have the candour to tell me so, and I shall have done ["Go on; go on, Sir!"]. First, then, let me congratulate you upon the existing state of things. You all remember our last meeting at St. Andrew's Hall (1823)—you remember the treatment, the revilings, the derision, which we experienced from the Hole-and-Corner gentry upon that occasion [a laugh]—you remember when the false money gave a seeming prosperity to the country, how we were reviled and abused—you remember how I, and every friend of mine who read *The Register*, were ridiculed and pointed at. Well, then, you see what has come to pass; you see, as well as I do, the truth of those predictions; and seeing this, are we not to triumph, are we not to

take an open opportunity of expressing the triumph, the exultation we feel, at seeing the situation in which our adversaries are placed [hear, hear, hear!]? I entertain no feelings of exultation at the losses of individuals; on the contrary, I feel precisely with the Honourable Baronet near me. I know nothing personally of the *Rooks*, or of their friends, relations, or connexions. But I know this—I know that their profession or their business, whichever you like to call it, is injurious to the prosperity and happiness of this kingdom [hear, hear, hear!]. I shall state one fact, which will give you some idea of this paper-money system. When I came to Norwich, I was determined to ascertain whether your banks actually paid in gold; and with that view I went to Mr. Gurney's bank, and presented a ten-pound note of his at the counter, and, in the very words upon the face of the note, demanded payment. They asked me "What I would have it in?" To which I answered, "Pay me for that note; all I want is, that you pay me." They understood what I meant, and I have the pleasure to inform you that they gave me ten sovereigns for it [hear, hear!]. They did this, because they knew, they felt, that they were bound to pay their notes in gold. But they did not do it at once; they kept me waiting a little while, the clerk saying, "Won't you tell us, Sir, how you will have it?" to which I uniformly answered, "No, no—pay me for that note; and if you don't pay me to my satisfaction, I shall proceed accordingly." They, however, knew their duty, for I was determined that I would not tell them, and they paid me in gold. This is a course of proceeding which I fear is not often adopted, even in Norwich [hear, hear!]. But if it were acted upon more generally in the different counties, you would find that payments in gold by Country Banks would become universal throughout the kingdom. I must say a word or two more about this note of Mr.

Gurney's, in order to let you see the blessings which the paper-money brings upon the country. The 10*l.* note which I presented was dated the 26th May, 1818; so that by next May it would have been eight years in circulation; at all events, it was in circulation long enough to give Mr. Gurney a profit of 4*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, calculating the interest at five per cent., and of course including the compound interest [hear!]. Now, I ask any of you, whether there is any reason, any utility, in a system such as this? Our government is a kingly government. We maintain a King and a Royal Family; and let me tell you that we maintain them very well, too, though I say it [hear! and a laugh.] We maintain a large and expensive Royal Family; we also pay a large number of placemen, pensioners, and sinecurists! and surely it is not too much to expect that we should have something in the shape of benefit in return. Ours is a government of King, Lords, and Commons; it is not, or at least it ought not to be, a government of Bank, Lords, and Commons! And if His Majesty had but continued to exercise his prerogative—aye, and one of his most important prerogatives, the issuing of the circulating medium of the country—Mr. Gurney would never have made his 4*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* upon the 10*l.* note, which he cashed me to-day [a laugh.] I now come to give you my opinion upon the state of the *Books*. You must have, by this time, perceived that they are dropping off their roosts, one here and one there, and one elsewhere; they don't in general make a very great noise, except in their own neighbourhoods, but they are dropping off. And yet, strange as it may seem, I find that every one has the greatest confidence in his own Bank. "True it is," they say, "that other Banks are going, but our Bank is perfectly safe." But at length the critical moment arrives, and that "very safe Bank" goes with the rest, and then the parties begin to discover the actual state of their

own *Books* [hear! and a laugh.] In order to explain this, I shall relate an anecdote which I read a few days since in the public papers. Mr. Crickitt (who was a great banker in Suffolk), became a bankrupt a short time since. He was looked upon as a man of solid and undoubted property. However, upon his examination, it appeared that he became a partner in the firm in 1809; that soon after that, he became indebted to the firm, into which he never brought one farthing afterwards, and that he continued a debtor to it up to the bankruptcy; that during these seventeen years, he had borrowed money from the firm to buy an estate, which estate he afterwards settled upon his wife. But this is not all. It further appeared, that during these seventeen years, this Mr. Crickitt, who never brought a farthing into the concern, during that time, and who was always in debt to it, actually shared 57,000*l.* of profits [hear, hear, hear!] Now I ask, is it not clear that this sum of 57,000*l.* as well as the 4*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* of Mr. Gurney, must have come altogether out of the pockets of the public? He gave no lands for it—he gave no goods for it—he gave no labour for it—he administered no physic for it—he administered no law for it; nay, he did not even so much as preach for it [a laugh]. And yet he bought an estate, he lived in style, he kept servants and expensive establishments; and all this was taken out of the pockets of the public [Hear, hear!].—In this way he possessed himself of what the labourer should have eaten; in this way he possessed himself of what the farmer should have saved and put by, or else expended upon his family. Let it not be supposed that this is any exaggerated statement of mine. I give it to you as I read it in *The Herald* of Monday or Tuesday last. The picture is sufficiently appalling; but, thank God! we have some prospect of an end being put to the system which produced it. It is hoped that

with the assistance of the Bank of England, that system may be propped up, and still carried on. It is, however, a vain hope; the time is fast approaching, when the people will no longer be shuffled off with the paper, even of the Bank of England. It is now pretty notorious that the lie, the profitable lie, that a Bank of England note was a legal tender, can no longer be thrust down the throats of the public; and as the people find the fact, they will refuse to receive it, and then the *Rooks* must die; and then small paper will, of course, be swept out of circulation, and the large paper, too, for that matter! Ministers, indeed, think to keep large notes in circulation, after the small ones are withdrawn; but we know that the large notes walk upon and are supported by the small ones, and that, when the one is out of circulation the other will disappear also. Will any one tell me that, when a man takes 4*l.* in notes to a bank, and gets gold for them, he will not also get gold for his 5*l.* note? He will say to himself, It is only asking one sovereign more; and as I have to keep it by me for a little time, I may as well take care that I run no risk by the failure of any bank. The revenues of Government must necessarily be paid, and then will come the tug. We all know that prices will fall—that they must fall; they did so in 1820, under similar circumstances; I am well informed that wheat, which, three months since, was at 78*s.* per quarter, in Scotland, is now at 48*s.* in that country. You will see that this is no more than 24*s.* a comb. I understand, also, that the loaf, which was, three months since, eleven pence, at Edinburgh, is now at eight-pence. Good God! is not this sudden and alarming reduction a sufficient warning? It is true that the law, with respect to small notes, is not yet in force with respect to Scotland, neither indeed is it with respect to England; but the people of Scotland are naturally cautious, and feeling that

they must pay in gold, have been drawing in their notes, and this drawing in will go on until the prices in this country are brought nearly on a level with those of other countries. You may depend upon it that will be the case, if Ministers persevere in the measure now adopted, and the man who thinks otherwise, grossly and egregiously deceives himself. This reduction must go on until wheat is brought down to 3*s.* 6*d.* or 3*s.* 9*d.* the bushel—that scientific bushel, the capacity of which is a little increased, and which is fixed upon by weighing certain square inches of water in an atmosphere of 62 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer. [Hear! and a laugh.] It is true that they have made the bushel a little larger, but all they can otherwise do will not prevent the price of it from coming down to 3*s.* 6*d.* or 3*s.* 9*d.*, if Ministers persevere in their present course. We are drawing gold from the Continent, and it is now pouring very fast into the country; this must render it scarce abroad, and, of course, lower prices in proportion; and unless our prices fall in a corresponding degree, the gold will go back, and then—why then, unless she draw in her paper, the old mother-bank must stop, and there will be at once an end to the system. But, *she will draw it in.* [Hear, hear!] Any man who allows himself to be deceived into an opinion that things are mending, because of any trifling vibration in prices, will sadly and fatally deceive himself; that is, if, as I said before, Ministers persevere. To be sure, nothing short of Omniscience can enable us to divine what they will do; but if they do persevere, prices must go down, so sure as we are here together assembled. You will, perhaps, tell me, that if such be the case, the landlord must be ruined, and his estates must pass into the hands of the fundholders and the stock-jobbers. Very true, he must be ruined, and must give up his estates to those parties; but the

farmer and labourer will remain, because the estates will remain—they cannot stop; the parson too will remain, for he continues well; he does not wait till the crop is sold, and the value received; he comes in at once and takes his share; but the landlord must certainly be ruined. You will, perhaps, ask me, whether the landlord will stand by, and with folded arms, allow the Jews and Jobbers of the day to take quiet possession of his property? And certainly, one could hardly suppose that he will. But have we not seen what took place in 1822? We were very near the mark then. Another year, and that which we have now every right to expect, must necessarily have taken place. You will say that the landlords do all this from a high sense of national honour and national faith; and, perhaps, they do; at least, let us give them some credit for such feelings. But we have a right to inquire whether there is not yet another, and perhaps a more powerful, cause, operating upon them? We have what has been called by some a “Dead-Weight,” lying upon us; we have an army; and in that army, according to Mr. Hume, we have some 16,000 or 17,000 officers. This army, we are told, has rendered such important services to the country—it has placed her national institutions, and her prosperity and independence, upon so secure a footing, that we are in gratitude bound to support and reward all those who belong to it! Again, we are told, on the other hand, that the army is for the safety and protection of the country in time of war. But is there no other reason for all this gratitude for past services and reward for expected protection? There is another reason, and that reason I think I can point out. They cannot touch one penny of the interest of the National Debt; which, taking it altogether, amounts to 35,000,000*l.* out of the 54,000,000*l.* of revenue. If they could only clap their hands upon one half or three

fourths of that “Best Friend,” as it has been happily called by the Honourable Bart. (Sir T. Beevor), then they would be able to get on. It is true that it belongs to a set of Jews and Jobbers; but what of that? You may say what you will about national faith, and national honour, but the true history of the case is this. The landlords themselves get hold of a great portion of the taxes. Only inquire, for a moment, who are the officers who govern forts and garrisons, which have neither embasuries nor guns; look into the Navy List, and see who are the men who are promoted over the heads of older officers; inquire who are they who get possession of all places and sinecures of emolument, either at home or abroad; take the Pension List; and amongst all these you will find, that the far greater part of those places, pensions, and sinecures, are distributed between the children, uncles, aunts, cousins, and other relations of these very landlords. [Hear, hear, hear!] After the petition which we presented in 1823, they stated that they heard with horror any proposal to touch a farthing of the public debt. But what did we say in that Petition? We, too, expressed our horror at any attempt to touch a farthing of the debt, or the interest of it, until they had reduced all and every one of these establishments. This is the true reason why they were afraid to touch the debt; they felt that they must first give up all these good things, otherwise they would lay their hands upon it and reduce the interest to-morrow. [Hear, hear, hear!] But who ever expected that any man, or set of men, ever willingly gave up any thing profitable, which they had been accustomed to consider their own? If a man holds an estate, which it is shewn by law he is not entitled to, does he walk quietly out, hat in hand? No; he takes good care to hold it as long as he can.—An Honourable Member of the House of Commons (Mr. Gooch)



has said, in reference to the Corn-Bill, we ought to start fair, and that English landlords ought to be upon the same footing with the landlords of other nations. Mr. E. Wodehouse has talked of an equitable adjustment (we owe that phrase to him.) But if the fundholder were to turn round upon Mr. Gooch, and say, "Sir, you wish to *start fair*, then let us start fair; before any alteration is made in the debt, or its interest, let your brothers and family give up the good fat livings and other things, which they hold in the Church and the Army?" This was what the fundholder would be likely to say to Mr. Gooch. He would probably answer Mr. E. Wodehouse pretty much in the same way. He would say, "if you wish to *start fair*, and have an equitable adjustment, let us, if you please, begin by taking away those large thumping livings and dignities which your family enjoy;—let us take care that your son, who has been promoted over the heads of so many senior officers in the Navy, be returned back to the situation which he must have filled if you had not been (what you are) [hear, hear, hear!]" Gentlemen, they know that all this would be said, they know that all this ought to be said, because they know that it is right; and this, as I have already said, is the true reason why they decline to act upon the prayer of our Petition. Some persons, however, proposed to reduce the interest of the Debt *indirectly*. They would not listen to our advice; on the contrary, they ridiculed it; and yet Mr. Gurney, who was one of those who joined in that ridicule, has his project, and what do you think it is? Why, nothing less than *lowering the standard*. This opinion he has expressed in his place in Parliament, and he has further supported it in a pamphlet which he has given to the world. A Parson in Suffolk (a Mr. Cruttwell) has adopted the same opinions, but he has gone further than Mr. Gurney. The lat-

ter did not fix the amount to which it must be lowered, but the Parson was not so scrupulous; he at once said it should be lowered one-half! That is to say, that where a man had 1*l.* due to him, he should receive 10*s.*—Mr. Gurney certainly has not gone this length, but he has adopted the principle; and what is that principle? That of clipping the King's coin? The Debt would remain nominally the same, to be sure; but in fact the money of the country would be brought to half its present value. Mr. Gurney, as well as the *Hole-and-Corner* men of this county, called our plan of 1823 a *roguish* proposition, and it was broadly asserted that I had come down to induce the people of Norfolk to agree to a roguish and most dishonest act. But let us see what would be the effect of Mr. Gurney's plan. Why it would be this, to reduce every creditor's demand one-half. Then let us see how it would work. And, first, you will observe that the plan is not new. Many of our Kings resorted to the plan of clipping the coin; that is, actually cutting a piece from it; but this was, at all times, and by all historians, decried as a gross and villanous act of dishonesty towards the public. Here, however, the dishonesty is increased; for not a small piece, but one-half, is to be at once taken off. And let us only inquire who are to be the losers of this half? The fundholder loses his half; the trader, the farmer, would lose half what he was entitled to, from the passing of the Act; but the labourer, supposing him to be hired for a year, from September last, would lose half his wages for the whole year. But, mark the dishonesty of the plan, with reference to Country Bankers. We all know the principal trade of a Country Bank consists in deposits. If any one of us were to deposit 100*l.*, say in a Country Bank to-day, and that this new measure were enacted to-morrow, then the Banker would only pay us back one-half. This would

affect the Annuitant, the Mortgagee, and the Fundholder to the amount of half the property of each for ever. It would affect the landlord only for the term of any lease he may now have granted; but the Parson, the cunning Parson, would *escape even that*, as he goes into the field and takes his tenth of the crop [hear, hear!]. So you see that Mr. Cruttwell would be in the same situation that he was before. This was the plan propounded by Mr. Gurney, and more accurately defined as to its extent by the Rev. Mr. Cruttwell. Our plan was not of this sort—we did not propose to touch a farthing of the Debt, or the interest of the Debt; we did not propose to interfere with any contract, until we ascertained the period at which each contract was made. If I contracted with any one of you, when wheat was 12s. a bushel, it could not be expected that I should pay according to that contract now. Is there anything unfair and dishonest in this? And yet Mr. Coke and several other persons said that our Petition was not only ridiculous, but dishonest; while they listened courteously to the principles laid down by Mr. Gurney, and fixed in their extent by Mr. Cruttwell, the one being a banker, and the other a parson [hear, hear!]. But, Gentlemen, we may recommend this plan, or the other plan, it is all of no use; for until a reform in Parliament is brought about, we have no chance of success; and for that Reform, too, do we pray. Depend upon this, that neither placeman nor sinecurist will ever give up a farthing, until he be forced; neither can it be expected that Parliament, as at present constituted, will ever make them. Let me call your attention to two or three things, and then ask you whether such a state of things would be allowed to exist, if the people had their proper influence in returning Representatives to that House? I will begin with *Sunday tolls*, which, in a great many places, are double those of other days. We

all know that farmers, as well as tradesmen in towns, who can afford to keep horses, find it impossible to leave their business on week days, and are therefore obliged to avail themselves of Sunday for the purpose either of visiting their friends, or taking the air. But on that day a double toll is exacted from these persons; while the rich, who drive about every day, and perhaps stay at home more on Sunday than any other day, are, in a great degree, exempted from it [hear, hear!]. Let me ask, if such a law would ever have been passed, if the people were generally represented in Parliament [cheers]? You all remember the dismissal of Sir Robert Wilson; he was dismissed from the army for some offence, or for no offence; I don't stop to inquire which, nor is it necessary to my argument. It was then contended that he ought not to be deprived of his half-pay, as that money was to be considered as a reward for *past services*. The Ministers answered, that it was a *retaining fee for future services*. Now, do we not know that there are a great many parsons—do we not know men, who have devoted themselves to the saving of souls, who are at this very moment on half-pay [hear, hear, hear!]? Now, observe, the parliament has decided, that the *clerical character is indelible*;—that is, in other words, that the parson cannot ever again serve as a soldier; and yet these men who can never again serve as soldiers have their half-pay continued to them, while it was taken away from Sir Robert Wilson [hear, hear!]. Is not this alone a monstrous inconsistency? Is it not a thing which could not occur, if the people were properly represented? True, Mr. Hume has tried to shake off and get rid of this superfluous expenditure; but he has no support, at least he has not that effective support which would be given to him by the freely chosen representatives of the people. You are, of course, aware that the Poor Laws compel the father to provide

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for his children during his life, if he has the means of doing so, or, indeed, if he has any means; and that the grandfather is equally bound to support them, in the event of the father's inability to do so. Some time since, a poor man from Ticehurst, Sussex, came to me, and stated that he had three grand-children, who were destitute, and chargeable on the parish, their father and, I think, their mother too, being dead. The poor man, who was himself near four score, said, he possessed three small tenements, which together brought him in about 16*l.* a year; with which sum, and his own exertions, he hoped to avoid going to the workhouse for support. The parish officers, however, came upon him; they took him before a Magistrate, and out of his trifling income he was forced to make an allowance towards the maintenance of his grand-children! The two boys were employed grubbing trees, and the girl at a farmer's, I believe; and the officers took care to deduct from the wages of the little children the sum paid by their grandfather for their support [hear, hear!]. I do not say that it was wrong to make the father, or even the grandfather, pay for the support of their children, where they were able to do so; but I ask you to look at the conduct of the rich. Take the Pension List, and see how many lords and ladies, little boys and little girls, aunts, uncles, and cousins, you will find there provided for, upon the ground that the nobility and gentry of the country must not be degraded [hear, hear!]. Is not this making one law for the rich and another for the poor? But is it doing no more than that? Is it not keeping the poor man from ever becoming independent, by saddling him, in addition to his own burthens, with the expense of the children of the rich, in the shape of taxation? Again, I ask, would such a system be for a moment permitted, if the House of Commons was properly constituted? But, Gentlemen, we

have prayed for this also in our petition, we pray for reform—we pray for retrenchment—we pray, too, for a reduction of sinecures, pensions, and useless places; and when these things are accomplished, we shall be ready to come to the "Equitable Adjustment," which one of your Representatives recommends; we shall be ready so to arrange the interest of the Debt, that the country may go on without the use of that paper currency which has so long been its bane and curse [hear, hear!]. You will recollect the petitions which we presented in 1817, praying for Parliamentary Reform; in which petitions, we pointed out the desolating effects of a paper system, and in which we predicted the dreadful convulsion which it must bring upon the country; we complained, too, of the heavy weight of taxation under which we laboured. Upon that petition there was a report, in which they found fault with our petitions, and what they called our meddling with subjects so much above our understandings. They said that taxes were no injury to the country; and that as to the paper currency, it was a blessing, and without it, it was impossible that we could go on. You all remember how many innocent individuals were taken up in a short time after that period: you remember also my flight to America; and let me tell you, that had I not made that flight, I should not be here today to witness the flight or fall of the Rooks [hear! and a laugh.] What can your opponents now say to you? What can they say to any Reformer? They can say nothing. True, they have still the power of refusing our petitions; and there the matter rests—we still wishing and praying for redress, as we did before [cheers.] There is one other subject upon which I feel it necessary to say a few words before I sit down—I mean, the cause of our oppressed and persecuted fellow-subjects, the Roman Catholics [hear, hear!] You are, I dare say, all Protestants; I too, am

a Protestant, and shall continue one; but I hope you are too just to think that the character of a Protestant is to be supported by injustice and cruelty to Roman Catholics. As I passed by your Cathedral this morning, I saw the words "No Popery" written in very legible characters upon the elegant doorway of that ancient edifice. The words "No Popery" upon a building which, were it not for our Roman Catholic ancestors, would never have had existence! I most solemnly declare, that never in my life did I feel more indignation than I did this day in reading that unjust and disgraceful inscription [hear, hear!] Is it not dreadful to think that we should be so base as to chalk upon that splendid edifice expressions at once so bigoted and so unjust? When the Roman Catholic Church was in its glory, that Cathedral was the conventual church to a priory in this city. Bishop Tanner, in writing of that priory, described the abbot and clergy as being very good to their tenants, and praised their generosity and hospitality in the highest degree. Amongst other things, he stated, that they brewed one thousand quarters of malt, and ground eight hundred quarters of wheat, the greater part of which was consumed in hospitality, [hear, hear!] And let me observe, that the crumbs that then fell from the tables of those priests, the dripping from their pots, would at this moment be received as a blessing in this same city of Norwich [applause.] Upon St. Andrew's Hall, which is also the boast and ornament of your city, I also saw the words "No Popery" written in large characters. That building was, in the days of Catholicism; a Church of Benedictine Monks, who were equally proverbial for their hospitality and charity. Here we are all Protestants, to be sure, but we did not make ourselves Protestants; we have taken our religion as we found it; but, I ask, are we to keep up a cruel and unjust persecution of those who con-

tinue to profess the religion of their own, as well as of our forefathers, from whom such splendid edifices have descended to us? [applause.] There is not a single Norwich man who does not point out those buildings to a stranger as the pride and boast of the city: is it not base and cowardly, then, in the last degree, to tread down and depress any set of persons, merely because they profess the same religion as their ancestors? There is another point, too, upon which I wish to say a few words. The Roman Catholic Clergy, when those Churches were built, received tithes in the same manner that the present possessors do. They had the same lands, the same revenues, but with one trifling difference between the former and the present holders. What the present occupants give in alms and charities, you who reside here may know—I confess I do not; but this I know that the Catholic Clergy supported all the poor out of their revenues. At that time such things as paupers and poor laws were unknown, and yet the tithes were collected more mildly and with much less hardship than they are at present. Now, we in our petition of 1823, prayed for something of which this puts me in mind. We stated that we wanted something of the Church, before we touched the public debt or the fundholder in any way. This Protestant Church, which has been so loud in its cry of "No Popery," has received from Government, in different grants (and in addition to the tithes, observe that,) no less than 1,600,000*l*. Now, is it not right that we should, first of all, request of the Church to be so good as to refund this sum of 1,600,000*l*.? [hear, hear, hear!] It was money paid out of the loans raised for the public service; and paid, or to be paid, by the public, unless Government paid the money before they got it. Will Englishmen, then, be so unjust, so oppressive, so cruel, as to attempt to take one farthing of the debt until this sum of 1,600,000*l*.

be repaid by the Church? The Church sees this; Mr. Cruttwell saw it at the time he was writing his pamphlet to reduce one half of the whole debt. He objected to our plan, but was anxious to introduce one of his own; the parson wished to work in such a way that people were not to see what was to be the effect of his plan. But he saw that otherwise the Church was likely to be called upon to refund the 1,600,000*l.* in gold and silver. There is another point—it is also contained in our petition—upon which I wish to say a word or two. As the Protestant Church is so much superior to the Roman Catholic Church, which it has succeeded; as the Catholic Priests were in the habit of oppressing and misleading the people; as they were so greedy as to conjure up miracles and what not, in order to deceive them;—surely the Protestant Church, which is such a pure and perfect religion, ought not to be more expensive than the other; and therefore, I say, give us back the old law; or, at least, give us so much back of it as will make the Parsons support all the poor, as the Catholic Clergy did before them, out of the Church Lands and Tithes, and let the Poors' Rates be altogether done away with [cheers, and laughter]. I assure you I am not joking; and if ever I obtain a seat in the House of Commons, most surely I will propose a law to that effect [hear, hear!]. I shall never go to that House without such a Bill ready prepared. I say that we ought to be silent about Popery, while we allow the Protestant Church to absorb the whole of those revenues which the Catholics expended in relieving and supporting the poor of the country [hear, hear!]. He, in conclusion, proposed "The health of Mr. Jones, of Bristol,"\* a gentleman who had done much for the country by his public-spirited conduct. Mr.

Jones was a miniature painter; and, of course, lived by the rich (the poor seldom got their miniatures painted), he had therefore much to risk; but he did risk every thing; and, by so doing, had rendered essential service to his country. He had, to say the least of it, accelerated the "crisis" by six months. He proposed "the health of Mr. Jones."—It was drunk with applause.

The *Chairman* then gave, "The glorious 3d of January, 1823" (the day on which the Petition alluded to by Mr. Cobbett was adopted at a county meeting in Norwich) [Applause].

Mr. Cobbett thought they should drink that toast with three cheers. He disliked cheers generally, because of a particular quarter in which they were usually given, but they might at least give three huzzas. [The three huzzas were given]. Mr. Cobbett wished to add a few words. It should be borne in mind, that Ministers had at length called country notes "dirty rags." Year after year they went on defending and praising paper; but now they had come so far over to his opinion, that they called them "filthy rags." And this, said he, pronounces the sentence of the *thing*, depend upon it [hear, hear!]. After a short pause, Mr. C. again rose and said, he was obliged to trespass upon the Meeting for a few moments longer. When talking of Popery and Popish superstitions, he just recollected that the Magistrates of Eodon had just put forth a hand-bill, by which they regulated that a single male pauper was to be allowed 3*d.* per day for his support; whether the man was to do any work or not, he could not say. He did not say that the Magistrates were wrong in making such an order; they were obliged to adopt one of two things—either to half-starve the pauper, or else to complete the ruin of the farmer; this was their only choice. He meant to cast no blame upon the Magistrates; but if such was the state of things, what became of the

\* Mr. Jones was the person who persisted in demanding gold from a Bristol bank, when it was thought a Bank of England note was a legal tender. This was in 1822, or 1823.

continued boast of the riches and prosperity of this country? If a poor man could only be allowed 3d. per day when bread was 2d. per lb., to what state must the country be reduced? And yet this was called prosperity! He went on to compare the wages of labour in the reign of Edward the Third with those of the present time. It was provided by an Act passed in that reign, that a man filling a dung-cart (he used the words of the statute) should receive 3½d. per day, and no more (the object of the statute was to prevent men from demanding too high wages). At that time wheat was 3s. 8d. the quarter; a fat goose sold for 2d., a fat sheep, shorn, 1s. 2d., and unshorn 1s. 8d. So that a dung-cart man could earn the price of a fat sheep in four days, while at this time a man in the Hundred of Lodon was allowed for his entire support as much per day as would purchase four or five ounces of mutton. To this sad state had this country fallen; and yet such was the contemptible vanity and base malignity of some people, that they wrote "No Popery" upon the walls of that cathedral which ought to remind them of the high and flourishing state of their ancestors, and the fallen and degraded state in which we were now placed. They might rest assured of this—no matter what was thought by persons beyond the reach of want—that when the laborious classes of society were not properly fed and clothed, the Government was not secure, and the boasted prosperity of the country delusive. Those around him, as country gentlemen and farmers, must be aware of this. He meant to cast no blame upon the farmers. They were obliged to retrench, and to cast the burthen any where, rather than let it come upon themselves and their families. It was to the 54,000,000*l.* of Taxes that this severe pressure was to be attributed; and were they, when wheat came to 3s. a bushel, to go on paying the same amount of taxes? Thus it was that

they heard so much about emigration and pauperism. How was it that our ancestors did not feel the necessity of emigration? In former days there was no complaint of overpopulation, or of want of labour—on the contrary, plenty and hospitality reigned throughout the country. England was then the greatest, the most happy, and the freest nation in the world; and so she would be now, if not borne down by debt and taxation [hear, hear, hear!].

The *Chairman* proposed the "Health of Col. Johnstone, M.P. for Boston, the most sincere and zealous friend and supporter of their opinions [applause]."

Mr. *Cobbett* said, one thing made it necessary to trespass again upon the attention of the meeting. The reason the poor had so much in the reign of Edward the Third, was because the higher classes were allowed so little. Now, a Judge had 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.* a year, a sum certainly not too much, considering the laborious duties they had to perform. For his part, he would not perform the duties of the Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, were they to give him 50,000*l.* a year. But in the reign of Edward the Third, when a dung-cart man had what would amount to 91*l.* a year of our money, a Judge had no more than 60*l.* of the currency of that time, or what would amount to 1,200*l.* a year at the present day. So that a Judge had no more than could be earned by fourteen or fifteen dung-cart men. As that time a quart of red wine could be had for 4d., and a quart of white wine for 6d.; a gallon of ale could be had for 1d. There were then no taxes; even the very name of taxes was unknown. When the King wanted money beyond the revenue of his crown lands, he applied to his Parliament, who granted him what they called a subsidy out of their own estates. Persons opposed to Reform tauntingly asked its advocates to point out a time when all the people in England voted at elec-

tions. He did not think such a precedent necessary; but he could easily find a time when all who paid taxes had a vote in imposing them, and that was all that was asked for now [hear, hear!] Let any one point out to him the man who paid no taxes, and he would say, let that man have no vote. Magna Charta declared that no man should be taxed without his own consent, and it was renewed every reign, in order to keep it in the King's memory. Now he should like to know how many there were in that room, who consented to the taxation imposed upon them [hear! and a laugh]? In the reign of Edward, a man could buy a pair of shoes for 4d.; so that even a dung-cart man could almost earn a pair of shoes every day.

The *Chairman* proposed "the healths of Lord Folkestone, and of Mr. Coke;" they were drunk with marked applause.

Mr. *Cobbett*, in proposing the health of Mr. Hume, observed, that that Honourable Member did his utmost to lighten the burthens of the country; he was always at his post, and brought into exercise a degree of industry and sincerity rarely equalled. His only mistake was, that he thought by retrenchment, and a moderate establishment, we might still go on and become prosperous. He (Mr. *Cobbett*) thought differently, but still it was only his opinion. The Honourable Member, acting, as he had a right to do, upon his own opinions, certainly did all that could be done, and was the means of preventing things from having become much worse than they were even at present. "Mr. Hume's health" was drunk with loud applause.

Mr. *Sherwin* (late of Drury-lane) sung the 'Seven Ages,' to which he added the following new stanzas:—

Th' Antipodes that dwell on t'other side the  
Ball, Fol, &c.  
Wear their heads below—but our Parliament,  
at call,  
Shew many a great man without any head at all.  
Heigh ho!  
Is it aye or no? Fol, &c.

Our dairy-maids and wash-women of old were  
lazy lades, Fol, &c.  
But now we've joint-stock cos., who've taken  
up their trades;  
Some gentlemen are milk-women, and some are  
laundry-maids.

Heigh ho!

They wash by steam, you know.

Fol, &c.

Among the various fashions of these our modern  
days, Fol, &c.  
To see the sexes changing modes our grandsires  
't would amaze,  
Some ladies wear the breeches, and gentlemen  
wear stays.

Heigh ho!

It ought not to be so. Fol, &c.

A Gentleman proposed "the health of Sir T. Beevor, and many thanks to him for his exertions to place Mr. *Cobbett* in Parliament [applause]."

Sir T. *Beevor* returned thanks for the honour done him. He then proposed "the health of Archdeacon Bathurst," who, though a Parson and a Magistrate, felt heartily ashamed of the late hole-and-corner business of his brother Magistrates [applause].

Sir T. *Beevor*, in proposing "the health of Mr. Withers," pronounced a most handsome eulogium upon the public spirit, patriotism, and zeal, of that gentleman.

Mr. *Cobbett* said, there was only one objection to him; but that was a thumping one, he was a lawyer [a laugh].

A Gentleman: Yes; but an honest one. (Mr. Withers is, we understand, the gentleman who qualified Mr. *Cobbett* to vote at the Norfolk County Meeting of 1823.)

Mr. *Cobbett* said he was going to depart soon, as he was anxious, on his way home, to sleep one night in a county where there was no Bank. Now he understood there was no Bank in Essex, he wished to sleep there, never having been in a county where no Bank existed. But before he went, he begged Mr. *Sherwin* to sing him another song. [Mr. S. did so, and was loudly applauded].

Mr. *Cobbett*, in rising to take leave of the meeting, again thanked them for the honour they had done him, both by their reception, and the at-

tention with which they had heard his address. He felt it his duty again to press upon them the certainty that a continued fall in prices must take place. He advised them, therefore, not to trust to any Bank, no matter how solvent it might be reported to be. If Ministers persevered in their Bill, money must continue to diminish; nothing could prevent it but their return to a Bank restriction—a measure which he considered very improbable, because of the load of infamy which would attend such a step. Ministers had stout stomachs, and could swallow a great deal, but he did not think they could swallow that [a laugh]. Mr. C., in conclusion, again thanked the Meeting, and cordially bade them good night. He was loudly greeted as he retired from the room.

Sir T. Beevor continued in the Chair, and the hilarity of the evening was continued to a late hour. Mr. Sherwin sang some excellent songs.

### HEREFORD BANKS.

THE news-papers tell us, that the Ministers have *suspended the collection of taxes* at HEREFORD on account of the breaking of the Rooks there! This is another *pretty feature*, or, as CASTLEREAGH would have called it, "*fundamental feature*," of the paper-money system. But, the taxes *must be paid at last*, surely? They will hardly be forgiven altogether? And, then, when they *are* paid, they will be paid, thank God, in a good gold and silver currency, and not in "worthless rags." But, what a curious sort of *law* this is, which the Ministers

can *suspend at their pleasure*? If they can suspend taxes, they can *remit* taxes; and then, to be sure, "*designing men*;" must *stand clear*!—While I have the pen in hand, I will remark, that since last week, I have been told, Mr. BODENHAM, the late banker at Hereford, to whom particularly I addressed myself in my last Register, I have been told, and I believe, that this Mr. BODENHAM became a banker much against his will, and only because *his father* pressed it on him in a manner that he could not resist. This being the case, I am sorry for Mr. BODENHAM; but, this is a singular case; and, at any rate, even in this case, while I am sorry for the *man*, I must rejoice at the fate of the *banker*.

### CORN-BILL.

THE people of Rochdale have, through Lord FOLKESTONE, presented a petition against this *odious bill*, and they have, at the same time, prayed for a *reduction of taxes*. This is sense; and, indeed, it is sense to pray for a repeal of the corn-bill alone, and to leave the affair of taxes to the *landlords*. That is their affair. If they choose to *give up their rents*, let them; that is nothing to the eaters of bread. But, how



come the people of *Westminster*, who always used to take the lead in every thing public-spirited; how come they to be silent on this subject? I see, that their *two members* have, at last, found *some work* to do: they are drawing up a bill for making **A NEW GAOL** for the benefit of their constituents! Would it not be quite as well, if they were engaged in an endeavour to keep people out of gaol by *getting cheap bread for them*; and by *getting taxes taken off*? Oh! expect not this from them! They will never make these attempts. One of them wants *high rents*, and the Son of the Commissioner of Nabob of Arcot's debts wants *high taxes*.

But, are we to be longer noodled along thus? I hope not. I trust that we shall have a *Westminster petition for a repeal of the Corn-Bill*. If there be no meeting for that purpose within these three weeks, I shall draw up a petition myself, and call upon others to join me. The **Rump**, that despicable tool of Sir Francis Burdett, shall not, I am resolved, *any longer stifle the voice* of the people of this great city, teeming as it does, with men of sense, of real knowledge, and of public spirit. If there be *no meeting* in Westminster for this purpose, I shall draw up a petition, and call on the people of Westminster to join me in that petition. If there be a meeting, *I shall go to it*, in order to assist in sending to the Parliament a *suitable* petition; a petition that will *speak out*, in a manner that the people of Westminster ought to speak; one that will show, that the Rump and its employers have not yet made Westminster a *Rotten Borough*.

## FORGERY.

THE following I see in the Hampshire Chronicle of 27th March, 1826.—“George Mitchell Jackson, **A BOY, THIRTEEN YEARS OF AGE**, was capitally convicted, at the York Assizes, of **UTTERING** forged **SADDLEWORTH BANK NOTES**, and sentenced to **DEATH**!”—Oh, God! There is now abundant evidence showing, that, in divers cases, country notes have been issued by men, *who knew that they were insolvent*! And, now there will be more forgeries, and, of course, more blood than ever. How long, how long, suffering England, is this state of things to last?

TO

PETER MACCULLOCH.

DEAR PETER,

WHERE are you, “*mon*”? What is become of you? Why do you not *lecture* us now? Now, dear Peter, is the time for you to show us all the advantages of “*sic yen a cheap currency*.” The silly “*loons o’ th’ Sooth*” are crying for *gold*, nasty, dangerous gold; and you hold your tongue! Come forth, dear Peter, open your “*London University*,” and teach the “*loons*,” that paper is far safer than gold, and beyond all measure *cheaper*. Pray, Peter, favour me with your address, that I may wait on you; for, really I long to *see how you look*. For the present, adieu.

WM. COBBETT.

N. B. Where is now the “*surplus copatol, mon*”?

**Resolutions of a Meeting, held at the Freemason's Tavern, and, by adjournment, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 8th February, 1826; SIR THOMAS B. BEEVOR, Bart. in the Chair.**

Resolved, 1. That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that it would be beneficial to the country if Mr. Cobbett were a Member of the Commons' House of Parliament; and that it is, therefore, the opinion of this Meeting, that there ought to be raised by public subscription a sum of money sufficient for defraying any expenses that may become necessary for the accomplishment of that object.

2. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., be the Treasurer of such subscription.

3. That the subscriptions be paid to the Treasurer, or to a person authorized by him to receive subscriptions, at the Office of the Register, No. 183, Fleet-street, London.

4. That each subscriber shall, at the time of paying his subscription, receive a receipt for the same, in the following form:—"Received of A. B. as the sum of  
" a subscription towards defraying  
" any expenses that may arise from  
" any steps that may be taken for  
" the purpose of obtaining a return  
" of Mr. Cobbett to serve in parliament."

5. That, if it should so happen that there be not raised a sum sufficient to warrant an attempt to effect the object in view, then, in the space of ten days after the close of the next general election, each and every subscriber shall, upon presenting, or causing to be presented, his aforesaid receipt to the Treasurer, or other person appointed for the purpose, receive the whole amount of the sum stated in the said receipt, without any deduction whatsoever.

6. That if any attempt be made, and fail, or if it succeed; and if, in either case, there be a *surplus* remaining in the hands of the Treas-

urer, then the whole of such surplus shall, at the end of fifty days after the close of the next general election, be, in the manner above-mentioned, returned to the subscribers, in proportion to the sums that they may respectively have subscribed: and, in order that the subscribers may be duly apprized of the share of surplus due to each, the Committee (here below named) shall cause notice to be publicly given of the amount of such surplus, and of the time for repaying it to the subscribers, upon their producing their afore-mentioned receipts. But, in order that there may be a limit to the business of the Committee and the Treasurer, it is understood that, in this case, as well as in that mentioned in Resolution 5, if the subscriber do not make his demand within *three months*, or ninety-three days, after the times above specified, the Committee shall be at liberty to dispose of the unclaimed subscriptions in that way which they may deem most proper, consulting, in this respect, as far as may be practicable, the wishes of the subscribers.

7. That each and every subscriber may subscribe in his own name, in any other name, or under any motto or designation that he may choose, and that his receipt, when produced (either by him or by any holder of it) shall be as valid as if given to him under his own name.

8. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., Joseph Martin, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Peter Walker, Esq., of Worth, Sussex, William Withers, jun. Esq., of Holt, Norfolk, and William Palmer, Esq., of Bollitree, Herefordshire, be a Committee for deciding upon, and for carrying into execution all the measures necessary for effecting the several purposes above-mentioned, and that their order, or that of any three of them, shall be to the Treasurer his sufficient warrant for disposing of any sums of money, that he may receive on account of the said subscription.

The Committee hereby authorize the following gentlemen to collect subscriptions for the above purpose.

Mr. WILLIAM PALMER, (one of the Committee) Bollitree Castle, Herefordshire.

Mr. WILLIAM BUDD, clerk of the Peace, Newbury, Berks.

Mr. THOMAS SMITH, bookseller, Liverpool.

Mr. C. M. RILEY, Westgate, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Mr. RICHARD ILES and Messrs. J. and S. VINES, Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Mr. JOHN FORSTER, Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

Mr. W. P. SHIRLEY, Sutton-Valence, Kent.

Mr. WM. BIRCHINALL, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Mr. FREDERICK JONES, Bristol.

Mr. BESLEY, News-Office, Exeter.

Mr. JOHN WOOD, Wettersham, Kent.

Mr. JOHN DRAKARD, News-Office, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

Mr. GEO. WRIGHT, bookseller, back of the Inns, Norwich.

Mr. JAMES BARLING, Fisherton, Salisbury.

Mr. WILLIAM FLOWER, Straw-hat Manufacturer, Eastbourne, Sussex.

Mr. C. W. HAYWARD, Queen-street, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

Mr. WROX, Bookseller, Manchester.

Mr. MANN, Bookseller, Leeds.

Mr. JOSEPH RUSSELL, Moore-street, Birmingham.

Mr. GOODERE, Register-Office, No. 24, George-street, Brighton.

Mr. DALE, Register-Office, Winchester.

Mr. COSENS, Bookseller, Bristol.

Mr. HICKLING, Bookseller, Coventry.

Mr. SAMUEL CLARKE, East-street, Havant, Hants.

ABEL HALLOWELL, Manchester-street, Huddersfield.

DOCTOR MINOCH, Hurst, near Twyford, Berks.

Mr. J. JACKSON, Hull.

Mr. STAUNTON, Morning Register Office, Dublin.

N. B. The Subscription at WEST AUCKLAND has been received.

Gentlemen in the country, who are willing to take upon themselves the trouble of collecting, are requested to send their names and addresses, to Sir T. Beevor, or to Mr. Cobbett, 183, Fleet Street; and they will be so good as to provide themselves with stamped receipts, agreeably to the Resolutions. The cost of these they can, of course, deduct from the subscriptions they may receive.

THE Committee for managing the Subscription for procuring Mr. COBBETT's return to serve in parliament will meet at No. 183, Fleet-street, on the 6th of April next, and, afterwards, on the first day of every Month, between the hours of ten and two, for the purpose of transacting business connected with the object they have in view. The Committee, therefore, request that those Gentlemen who have been appointed to

receive Subscriptions, as well as those who may have undertaken to make Collections among their immediate neighbours, will transmit the amount of their respective Collections, three days before the time of Meeting, directed to the Treasurer at Fleet-street, at his own residence, Hayham, near Auteborough, Norfolk, or Mr. Geo. Wright, Printer, Norwich, post paid, (the expense of postage to be deducted, if thought necessary, from the sum so sent.) The Treasurer will attend in Fleet-street, during the day, to receive the Subscriptions of such Gentlemen in London, and its vicinity, as may prefer paying them to him in person. The receipt of the several Collections will be acknowledged in the Register of the week following.

THO. B. BEEVOR,  
Chairman.

### FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON.

THIS Feast will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate Street, on THURSDAY, the sixth day of April, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at which time, precisely, dinner will be on the table. The tickets are to be 12s. 6d. each, including a bottle of wine to each person. The number of tickets is limited to five hundred; as no greater number of persons can, it is supposed, conveniently dine. It will, in or-

der to ensure tickets, be necessary to get them before the 3rd of April. After that day none will be disposed of. They may be had at the *Bar of the Tavern*, or at the *Register-Office, No. 182, Fleet Street*. Gentlemen, who intend to come from the country, may, by writing to their friends in town have tickets secured for them against their arrival.

### MAPS OF AMERICA.

I HAVE nine, and no more, very large maps of the United States of America, showing the line of demarcation according to the late treaty between the English and American possessions, and including a considerable part of these latter possessions. The map includes, also, the whole of the kingdom of Mexico, and the whole of the Antille West India Islands. It takes in the whole continent of North America to the Pacific Ocean, and it has a little map, in the vacant space, describing the whole of the West India Islands, together with the neighbouring coasts of South America. It has, besides, a capital statistical table. The map is covered; it is on canvass, and on rollers; it was executed at Philadelphia the year before last. It is the completest thing of the kind that I ever saw. I imported one for my own use; the other nine I have to sell. The map is about five feet long, and proportionably wide. The price is *four sovereigns*.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending March 18.

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	54	11	Rye ....	43	2
Barley ..	30	2	Beans ...	35	6
Oats ....	22	4	Pease ...	39	4

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended March 18.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	30,037	Rye ....	162
Barley ..	21,127	Beans ...	3,734
Oats ...	40,701	Pease ...	642

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, March 18.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat..	7,390 for 21,436	19	0	Average,	58	0
Barley..	5,885 ..	9,639	6	10	.....	32 9
Oats..	14,935 ..	18,720	13	9	.....	25 0
Rye....	11 ..	20	0	11	.....	36 5
Beans..	2,411 ....	4,224	18	10	.....	35 0
Pease ..	703 ....	1,317	14	10	.....	37 5

Wednesday, March 22.—The supplies this week are moderate of Wheat and Barley, but there is a good quantity of Oats. Wheat fully

supports Monday's terms. In Barley, Beans, Pease, there is no alteration. Oats maintain last quotations, with little doing in this article. No market on Friday, it being Good Friday.

Monday, March 27.—The arrivals of last week were moderate with the exception of Oats, which were considerable, having several vessels in from Ireland. This morning there is a fair supply of Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, and a few more vessels in from distant parts with Wheat and Oats. There has been a brisk trade for superfine Wheat this morning, and for such an advance of full 2s. per qr. was obtained; other sorts also sell more readily than of late.

Malting Barley obtains an increase in price of 1s. per qr., and other sorts meet a better sale than of late. Beans that are dry obtain rather more money, but others remain at last week's prices. Boiling and Grey Pease sell rather better, but we do not notice any alteration in price. There has been a brisker trade for Oats, and fine samples have obtained rather more money, but other sorts remain as last.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack .....	53s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	46s. — 50s.
— North Country ..	42s. — 46s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from March 20 to March 25, both inclusive.

Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat.. 5,115	Tares ....	405
Barley .. 3,736	Linseed ..	45
Malt.... 7,150	Rapeseed..	450
Oats .... 23,607	Brank ..	—
Beans ... 1,010	Mustard..	10
Flour.... 7,637	Flax .....	—
Rye..... —	Hemp ....	—
Pease.... 485	Seeds ...	5

Foreign.—Barley, 2,173; and Oats, 2,746 quarters.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at  $9\frac{1}{2}d.$  by the full-priced Bakers.

City, 29th March, 1826.

### BACON.

The manufacturers have taken advantage of the temporary advance of the last ten days to effect some considerable time bargains; and now prices have been allowed to go back to about what they were before.—Landed: 50s. cash; 52s. credit.

### BUTTER.

The cold weather has been in favour of the consumption of Butter; and consequently there has been a good demand for all the better kinds. Best Dutch, 112s.; Carlow, 94s.; Waterford, 84s.; Inferior qualities, nominal.

### CHEESE.

Very little demand, and prices declining. The accounts from all parts of the country represent the want of money as very great; and that, in consequence, prices have fallen considerably.

Monday, March 27.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 10,452 firkins of Butter, and 8,633 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports 4,371 casks of Butter.

### HOPS.

Worcester, March 22.—On Saturday, 76 pockets were weighed; prices 10l. to 11l.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, March 27.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	10	4	8
Mutton ...	4	0	5	0
Veal .....	5	6	6	4
Pork .....	5	0	6	0
Lamb .....	6	0	7	0

Beasts ...	2,477	Sheep ..	14,040
Calves ...	98	Pigs ...	100

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	4	0
Mutton ...	3	4	4	4
Veal .....	4	0	6	0
Pork .....	4	0	6	0
Lamb .....	5	4	7	4

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	2	4	2
Mutton ...	3	4	4	6
Veal .....	3	8	6	0
Pork .....	4	0	5	8
Lamb .....	5	8	7	4

COAL MARKET, March 24.

*Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.*

99½ Newcastle..	44	28s. 6d. to 38s. 0d.
13 Sunderland..	11	33s. 0d.—32s. 6d.

## POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10 to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 10 —	2 15
Chats.....	2 10 —	0 0
Common Red.....	0 0 —	0 0
Onions 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.	

BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10 to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 5 —	3 0
Chats.....	1 10 —	2 10
Common Red.....	0 0 —	0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay... 65s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 40s.

Clover.. 85s. to 110s.

Whitechapel.—Hay... 66s. to 92s.

Straw... 36s. to 40s.

Clover.. 84s. to 112s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat:		Barley:		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.
Aylesbury .....	62	66 0	32	36 0	26	29 0	42	45 0	47	52 0
Banbury .....	58	68 0	32	36 0	22	28 0	40	48 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke .....	56	72 0	30	35 0	23	27 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Bridport.....	54	60 0	28	36 0	22	24 0	40	0 0	0	0 0
Chelmsford.....	60	70 0	30	36 0	20	30 0	30	34 0	34	48 0
Derby.....	62	66 0	28	38 0	22	30 0	38	42 0	0	0 0
Devizes.....	48	64 0	28	38 0	23	32 0	44	54 0	0	0 0
Dorchester.....	52	68 0	26	30 0	22	28 0	46	54 0	0	0 0
Exeter.....	56	62 0	36	32 0	22	25 0	0	0 0	36	40 0
Eye.....	54	62 0	30	34 6	24	28 0	34	38 0	0	0 0
Guildford.....	10	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley.....	55	74 0	31	40 0	25	32 0	45	52 0	46	53 0
Horncastle.....	50	58 0	28	32 0	18	22 0	30	34 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	56	66 0	25	34 0	20	30 0	40	56 0	0	0 0
Lewes.....	48	60 0	31	38 0	22	25 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury.....	50	75 0	28	35 0	17	33 0	40	51 0	44	50 0
Northampton.....	52	62 0	28	32 0	21	25 0	37	43 0	0	0 0
Nottingham.....	59	0 0	33	0 0	23	0 0	38	0 0	0	0 0
Reading.....	59	74 0	28	39 0	20	29 0	44	49 0	43	47 0
Stamford.....	52	63 0	27	31 0	17	24 0	35	42 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket.....	50	62 0	26	34 0	24	28 0	32	0 0	0	0 0
Swansea.....	62	0 0	36	0 0	20	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro.....	58	0 0	33	0 0	27	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warminster.....	52	65 0	28	39 0	21	27 0	40	54 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	52	64 0	30	34 0	23	29 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith*.....	27	31 0	19	26 0	17	22 0	17	20 0	16	18 0
Haddington*.....	26	31 0	20	25 6	16	24 0	16	20 0	16	20 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

*Liverpool*, March 21.—The imports from Ireland during the past week have been very trivial, but Costways the arrivals of Grain have been large, and the demand continued very regular to a limited extent. From the considerable diminution of our stock, Wheat advanced on Saturday evening, 3*d.* per 70 lbs.; and Oats 1*d.* per 45 lbs., and that advance was fully supported yesterday, although the arrivals from Ireland were then much increased. The market of this day was well attended, and the demand good for each description of Wheat, at an increase on the prices of last Tuesday of 3*d.* to 6*d.* per 70 lbs.; and Oats 1*d.* per 45 lbs. Flour improved 2*s.* per 280 lbs.; and Beans 1*s.* per quarter. Malt and Barley, although the arrivals of each are rather large, remain in value much the same as on this day se'nnight.

Imported into *Liverpool* from the 14th to 20th March, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 7,359; Barley, 6,504; Oats, 13,347; Malt, 6,228; Beans, 1,659; and Pease, 91 quarters. Flour, 3,530 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 721 packs per 240 lbs. American Flour, 100 barrels.

*Norwich*, March 25.—Our supply of all Grain to-day was exceedingly limited, consequently the sale was brisk. Red Wheat sold from 50*s.* to 59*s.*; White, to 62*s.*; Barley, from 21*s.* to 32*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 24*s.*; Beans, 32*s.* to 35*s.*; Pease, 34*s.* to 37*s.* per qr.; and Flour, 44*s.* to 45*s.* per sack.

*Bristol*, March 25.—The present prices of Corn, &c. at the markets in this place, may be considered nearly as follows:—the sales are very dull. Wheat, from 4*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 3*d.*; Barley, 3*s.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*; Oats, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 1*d.*; Beans, 3*s.* 3*d.* to 6*s.*; and Malt, 5*s.* to 7*s.* per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 30*s.* to 42*s.* per bag.

*Ipswich*, March 25.—Our market to-day was pretty well supplied with Barley and Wheat, but shortly with Beans. Prices of all Grain were higher. Currency as follow:—Wheat, 50*s.* to 64*s.*; Barley, 30*s.* to 36*s.*; Beans, 35*s.* to 37*s.*; and Pease, 35*s.* to 38*s.* per quarter.

*Witch*, March 25.—The supply of Wheat to-day is better than of late, and the condition being generally good, was taken off freely at from 3*s.* to 4*s.* above last week; in other Grain no material alteration.—Red Wheat, 52*s.* to 58*s.*; White ditto, 58*s.* to 60*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 24*s.*; and Beans, 34*s.* to 36*s.* per imperial qr.

*Wakefield*, March 23.—The supply of Grain still continues very scarce, and necessitous buyers are compelled to give advanced prices for all articles; the sales, however, are by no means brisk, as every one purchases as sparingly as possible. Wheat is 2*s.* to 3*s.* per quarter, and Barley 1*s.* to 2*s.* per quarter higher than on this day se'nnight. Shelling is taken off at 34*s.* per load, and Oats at 1*d.* per stone more than last week. Beans have improved in value 1*s.* to 2*s.* per qr. Malt is in limited demand, but rather better prices are obtained. Rapeseed nominally the same.

*Newcastle-on-Tyne*, March 25.—The farmers' supply of Wheat was rather large this morning, and having some arrivals from the North, the sale was rather slow at an advance of 1*s.* per quarter upon last week's prices. Fine Rye is in demand, and 2*s.* per quarter dearer. Best Norfolk malting Barley is in demand, and 1*s.* to 2*s.* per qr. dearer. There is also rather more doing in foreign, both for malting and grinding. Malt continues at last week's prices. The supply of Oats was rather large, and last week's prices were scarcely supported. The weather, during the last fourteen days, has been exceedingly cold, with rain and sleet, and spring sowing has, in consequence, been suspended. The weather is also of importance as regards the growing crop and the period of harvest, as the stock of corn in the country is now almost exclusively in the hands of the farmers.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, March 25.—We had a good supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, and the demand being not increased, the prices were much the same as last week—6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; as is usual the next Market day after the Tombland Fair the supply of Store Stock was very small, and the sale of Scots quite flat, what few were sold were at 4s. per stone when fat.

*Horncastle*, March 25.—Beef, 7s. per stone of 14lbs.; Mutton, 6d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

*Bristol*, March 25.—Beef from 6d. to 6½d.; Mutton, 6d. to 6½d., and Pork, 4½d. to 5d. per lb., sinking offal.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, there were a good many Cattle, but rather a short supply of Sheep: there being little demand, the former met with dull sale; the latter sold readily at a little advance in price.—Beef, from 6s. to 6s. 9d.; and Mutton, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 9d. per stone, sinking offal.

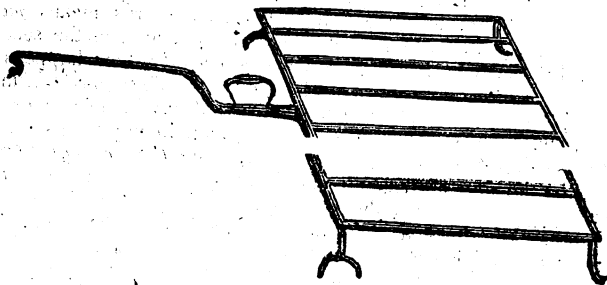
## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended March 18, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	58	3	32	4	24	0
Essex .....	60	4	29	9	24	8
Kent.....	57	8	32	5	24	3
Sussex.....	55	3	32	9	26	6
Suffolk.....	54	3	29	8	25	8
Cambridgeshire.....	51	3	28	0	19	3
Norfolk .....	52	3	27	4	23	0
Lincolnshire .....	50	10	26	10	17	0
Yorkshire .....	49	8	28	0	17	7
Durham .....	56	5	40	11	26	7
Northumberland .....	52	2	33	1	24	2
Cumberland .....	59	11	32	0	22	0
Westmoreland .....	63	4	38	0	24	1
Lancashire .....	60	1	38	10	25	1
Cheshire .....	58	7	37	0	23	8
Gloucestershire.....	59	11	35	0	23	7
Somersetshire .....	58	11	36	7	21	3
Monmouthshire.....	58	1	35	2	23	0
Devonshire.....	56	11	30	7	19	4
Cornwall.....	59	6	31	5	23	10
Dorsetshire .....	56	2	29	5	23	10
Hampshire .....	54	10	31	2	22	9
North Wales .....	62	4	34	9	21	3
South Wales .....	58	0	30	8	17	2

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

Vol. 58.—No. 2.] LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1826. [Price 6d.



"This Bill (Mr. Peel's) was grounded on concurrent Reports of both Houses; it was passed by unanimous votes of both Houses; it was, at the close of the Session, a subject of high eulogium in the Speaker's Speech to the Regent, and in the Regent's Speech to the two Houses: now, then, I, William Cobbett, assert, that, to carry this Bill into effect is impossible; and I say, that, if this Bill be carried into full effect, I will give Castlereagh leave to lay me on a Gridiron and broil me alive, while Sidmouth may stir the coals, and Canning stand by and laugh at my groans."—Taken from Cobbett's Register, written at North Hempstead, Long Island, on the 24th of September, 1819, and published in England in November, 1819.

The Small-Note Bill, passed in 1822, partly repealed Peel's Bill, before the day for its going into full effect: and, in December, 1825, the one-pound notes of the Bank of England came out again.—So that here was the above prophecy completely fulfilled.

## FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON.

Kensington, 5th April, 1826.

THIS Feast will have taken place before this Register can come from the press. It is come at last; nor, indeed, has it been very tardy in coming. The prediction on which it was founded bears date only late in the year 1819. It is only seven years and a half since it was published; and the feast might have been

held in July, 1822; for then Peel's Bill was, in part, repealed. But, though this was the fact, I thought it best to put off the keeping of the feast until every man's eyes should be opened, which they now have been by the blowing up of the Rooks, and by the re-appearance of the small bank-of-England notes, to do away with which, and of all other small notes, **FOR EVER**, was the great object of Peel's Bill. However, it is unnecessary to say more on this subject at present. To have seen, written on the walls of several

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Printed and Published by WILLIAM COBBETT, No. 183, Fleet-street.  
[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

country towns, "COBBETT'S RIGHT: NO RAG-MONEY:" to have seen this in my late journey to NORWICH, tells me that the abuse heaped on me for twenty years, by the vile newspapers, *has now received an answer from the people themselves.* There will, to-morrow, be feasts of the same sort at several places in England. It will be the day of triumph of me and of those who have thought with me. We have a right to rejoice; and rejoice we do, and that, too, from the bottom of our hearts.

### HEREFORDSHIRE BANKS.

MORE smashing in this part of the country; but the smashing is now become so common that it scarcely excites attention. The new smashing is announced by the "INDEPENDENT" in the following words:—

"LEOMINSTER AND LUDLOW BANKS.—We regret to state that "on Monday, Messrs. Coleman and Wellings, bankers, Ludlow, "and on Tuesday, Messrs. Coleman, Morris, and Sons, bankers, Leominster, in consequence of "the sudden and unexpected demands made upon them, deemed "it prudent to suspend their payments for the present. Both "firms state, that a statement of "their affairs will be immediately submitted to the Creditors. "Messrs. Coleman, Morris and "Sons make no doubt that they "shall have a considerable surplus, after all demands are discharged.—These additional failures will cause much distress, as "the circulation of both houses "was large."

Oh, yes! "a considerable surplus"! A monstrous heap of assets! Now, as the first of these two roguery-words means *more than enough*, and, as the second means *enoughs*, how happens it that these people stopped? If they had real money in their shops, or if they had, in any things of real value, *more than enough* to pay with, why were they not ready to pay, especially after all the awful warnings that they had had? Are not these statements delusive, then? And for what can they be intended? Why, to assist in cheating the people. In absolutely cheating them, by inducing them to confide in that which is worthy of no confidence.

This same paper tells us of the distress created in Herefordshire by the breaking of the Rooks. Aye, to be sure! Who expected the contrary? But, is this not a good reason to wish for the total destruction of such a system? Is it not a good reason for endeavouring to render, in future, such distress impossible? "The glovers at LUDLOW," says this stupid cockcomb of the Hereford "INDEPENDENT,"—"are turning off all their "hands, for want of a circulating "medium to pay them with. Such "are the blessings of the COBBETT SYSTEM." Just the reverse, thou worse than ass in man's shape; just the reverse; for the "COBBETT SYSTEM" is a system of solid money; a system that provides effectually for a money that is *not liable to be swept away* in this manner. If the glovers at LUDLOW had never heard of paper-money; if the "Cobbett System," that is to say, the laws and customs of England, had been always in force, the glovers

of Ludlow could never have known their present misery. So that the famous *Ass of Hereford*, whose ears are, I am told, of surprising elegance, symmetry, and especially, *length*; this famous ass, whose brayings, it is notorious, are nearly as loud as the great bell of the cathedral, and whose tongue is admired as coming so closely to the shape and size of that bell's clapper, while his skull has been, by the Craniological Society, pronounced to consist of the same sort of materials as those of which that bell is made, namely, dross and brass; this famous ass is just out in his estimate of the Cobbett System, which is a system of uniform safety and peace.

In my address to the people of Herefordshire, I alluded to something that I had heard about *trust-money*. The *Ass of Hereford* has pricked up his ears, and, ass-like, has brayed about this. What an ass it is! Really it must be nearly upon all-fours. Why could the Ass not have kept silence, unless he could have spoken plain, and given a better account of the matter than the following: "We cannot enter this week, on the monstrous propositions and execrable doctrines, which are embodied in the article now under flagellation—but it contains one insinuation, so base and villainous, that we cannot suffer it to pass unnoticed. It is couched in the following words:—'I cannot conclude this address without asking, whether something particular has not taken place at Hereford, of late, relative to the disposition of money held in public trust?' If what I have heard upon this subject be true, there is surely

"*spirit enough left in the city*  
 "of Hereford to bring to full  
 "light the matter to which I  
 "allude."—We have made inquiries into the affair alluded to, and are satisfied that had the transaction which has awakened the amiable and trust-worthy Cobbett's virtuous apprehensions been carried into effect—it would have benefited in a very considerable degree the parties over whose interests the Cobbettites pretend to watch so assiduously.—But it was not carried into effect—and in any case the benevolence, the honour, and the wealth of the gentlemen at whom the unworthy imputation-glances—should have protected them from its acrimony."

So, then, there was something in contemplation, at last! And, if not carried into effect, why was it not? We shall have it all out before it be over. The whole will come out, in spite of all this benevolence, honour, and wealth. It is a thing that will amuse us: pity that we had it not for the Feast of the Gridiron! And, why, if the affair were so very good, why does not the Ass explain it to us; or, why does he not hold still that clapper, which he carries in his head of brass? He calls my insinuation "*base and villainous*." What was it? Why this: "I ask, whether something particular has not taken place at Hereford, of late, relative to money held in public trust." That is all. Not a word more. What is there of base and villainous in the word "*particular*"? Ah! thou famous Ass of Hereford, thou art so fond of braying; thou art so much of the breed of thy brother in the stable, that thou canst not refrain

from discovering thy pedigree by the vanity which induces thee to believe, that thy voice is the *finest* of that of all the beasts of the forest.

Having expressed my anxious wish to go to *Hereford*, that happy city without a bank, the ass, after braying out a good deal about my rejoicing at the distress of the people, proceeds thus:

"Spirit of Jack the Painter!"—

"What a paltry 'incendiary'

"didst thou animate! Here is a

"public writer—a self-created

"prophet—a would-be MEMBER

"OF PARLIAMENT—rejoicing in

"the distress which he has la-

"boured so assiduously to pro-

"mote!!!—Let him come to

"Hereford by all means; and

"though the distress—the 'terri-

"ble distress'—the tears of abject

"want—and the pangs of honour-

"able feeling cannot find 'sym-

"pathy' in his muscular callosity

"mis-named a heart—yet, even

"that may be taught to feel for

"himself. We shall be much

"surprised if his reception be not

"either more cool than he ex-

"pects—or more warm than he

"wishes it to be."

*Warm or cool I shall be there*

*in about five or six weeks, unless*

*I find that the parliament is about*

*to be dissolved, and that is what I*

*by no means expect. And does*

*this ass really hope to frighten*

*me? To be sure his brayings and*

*his ears are enough to frighten*

*one; but, I am duly prepared for*

*them. They will not take me by*

*surprise. I intend to dine at*

*Hereford about the middle of*

*May. My intention is this: when*

*I have put all my seeds into the*

*ground and grafted all my trees,*

*which will be about the first of*

*May, to set off, on horse-back*

*from this place to Reading, thence*

*to Newbury, thence to Salisbury,*

*and on, through Frome and Bristol,*

*to Hereford; then to Worcester;*

*then to Coventry, and on*

*to Liverpool; and then right on,*

*through thick and thin, to Glas-*

*gow, taking a look at the Cotton-*

*Lords as I go through Lancashire,*

*and going to see that same Bolton,*

*where JOHN HAYES was impris-*

*oned for announcing my arrival*

*in good health, at Liverpool.*

*From Glasgow I shall, taking a*

*sweep about, go to MODERN*

*ATHENS and see the Edinburgh*

*Reviewers; and then come back,*

*through Yorkshire, and on, through*

*Lincolnshire, to Norwich; and*

*then to Kensington, through Hert-*

*fordshire. I have a right to do this;*

*I like to do it; and I will do it. I*

*have always found, that, to know*

*and be known, you must use your*

*eyes as well as your ears. The*

*brayings of this famous Ass of*

*Hereford, do, indeed, make me*

*know him pretty well; but I shall*

*never be able fully to ascertain*

*what he is, till I see his ears. I*

*cannot dismiss this article without*

*calling upon the Ass of Hereford*

*to tell us the whole story about*

*this trust money. I asked whether*

*there were not something particu-*

*lar about it. He darts up his long*

*ears, calls the insinuation base and*

*villanous. Now, if I were to say*

*to any man, Is not there some-*

*thing particular relative to your*

*wife's conduct, what would any*

*one suspect if the lady were to*

*call my insinuation base and vil-*

*lanous? Should not we suspect*

*that she was conscious that there*

*was a something or other in her*

*conduct that ought not to be?*

*Why suppose that I alluded to*

something that was bad? Why not suppose me to have alluded to something that was very good? Readers, who live at a distance from Hereford, will not fail to draw just conclusions from these premises; and a large part, at least, of the inhabitants of Hereford, know well that what the Ass of Hereford has here asserted relative to this matter is wholly false. They know well that the parties interested would not have been benefited by the transaction to which allusion has been made.

However, when I get to Hereford, I will take the liberty to make an inquiry somewhat more minute than any that I can make at this distance; and if I find sufficient grounds for it, I shall recommend a petition to Parliament upon the subject. "Petition me no petitions!" said Tom Thumb the Great. Our Collective has not said that yet: they require, indeed, that our language should be respectful, and I defy any man to say that I ever wrote or recommended any petition to that illustrious body, that was not couched in language as respectful and as humble as could possibly be required, even if the Collective possessed that omnipotence which has been so audaciously ascribed to it.

This famous Ass of Hereford brays so loudly, only because he knows that I am at such a distance from him. When I arrive at the spot where he is, he will be as mute as a fish. I shall give notice in the Register of the time of my departure; and shall appoint the day as nearly as possible when I shall be at Hereford. No broken rook; no plucked rook; and no still feathered rook; and none of

their friends, will be able to give me any annoyance. I shall not desire to have any thing like an entertainment fixed on for me. I shall go, in every place that I enter, to the inn that I like best; and if any body have a mind to come and dine with me, and talk with me, so be it; if not, I shall dine and talk with my own travelling companions. I shall find some friends every where; and, after all the battles with the feelosophers, I shall find, not a few in Scotland itself. This I know, that I shall find no place of any importance, where there are not people who have handled me more roughly than I have ever attempted to handle any body. They shall now, if they will, see the man whom they have so much abused; and, which is but fair, I will if I can, literally look in the face those that have abused me. I will, in another Register, mark out my route, as nearly as I possibly can. Free quarter is exceedingly convenient, as well as pleasant. As far as Herefordshire, I shall have two horses, one for myself, and one for my little son. After that, I shall have, I believe, another horseman, of about the same age with my son, and we shall jog along at the rate of about twenty or thirty miles a day. We shall have nothing to prevent us from diverging to the right and to the left; and if any friend of mine should wish me to take his house on my way, I shall comply with his wish, if it be possible to do it without very great inconvenience. I shall avoid the turnpike roads as much as possible. I want to go and see the people, particularly in the villages and hamlets, where they are the most friend-

less, the most forlorn, and the most oppressed. I want to see, with my own eyes, the dinners that they sit down to, and see them I will.

TO

### SIR ROBERT PEELE.

SIR,

SOME people may wonder to see your name at the head of an article written and published by me; and their wonder may be still greater, when they discover my intention to insert and to comment upon, any thing that can have been written by you, for whom, I have always entertained, and still entertain, as much contempt as it is possible to entertain for any human being. But, a letter, published by you, in the columns of the Morning Herald, of yesterday, contains so many, and such impudent falsehoods, that I cannot let it pass without some notice. You are a creature of the paper-system; you have been one of the great supporters of it; you are now doing all that you are able to do to uphold it, by a tissue of bare-faced falsehoods, part of them in praise of the paper, and part of them, in praise of the empty braggart PITT, that profligate Minister, who was the great inventor of the means of extending the influence of this accursed system. Bad as I think of you, and worse as I think of your publication, I will treat you fairly: I will insert the whole of your address to the Members of both Houses of Parliament, just as I find it inserted in the Morning Herald; and then I will make such remarks on it, as I think proper.

### SIR ROBERT PEELE.

To the Members of both Houses of Parliament.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—Will you permit an *old man* to address you on the subject of our currency? I sat in Parliament *thirty years*, during which time I frequently heard this important question discussed in the House by Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, and other distinguished characters. On the passing of the Bank Restriction Act, I was intrusted by the Merchants and Citizens of London, to present their Petition against the measure. Though my opinions were embodied in their case, my best endeavours to serve them were not successful. Having been long and extensively engaged in commercial dealings, I often witnessed a national embarrassment arising from a defective and impure currency, which resembled the present stagnation in trade; and I lament to observe, that suffering and experience have failed, in this instance, of producing their usual good effects. In the enlarged scale of business carried on by this country, embracing a great variety of pursuits, a reliance on a *metallic circulation alone, ever did, and ever will fail us*. Gold, though in itself massy, often *disappears in consequence of war, or speculation; nay, the breath of rumour itself is sufficient to disperse it*. Our domestic concerns are interrupted and confidence lost, for want of an ample and approved medium of traffic.

I am no friend to an unrestrained issue of paper-money, and saw with concern, in the absence of a due quantity of specie, bills admitted into circulation issued by persons of respectability, possessing property, but evidently unable to meet a sudden and large demand upon them. More than two years ago I mentioned to a friend high in His Majesty's Councils, my fears of the mischief likely to ensue if the practice were not discontinued; accompanied with a suggestion to *confine future issues of paper-money, or tokens, to the Bank*

of England and other competent bodies of men, who would give security in land, the public funds, canals, buildings, or other tangible property; amounting, at least, to one-half of the value of their bills, or tokens, in circulation. My proposition was not favoured with any notice, yet had it been adopted, I am of opinion that most of the panic and distresses now so severely felt in the nation would have been avoided. If such an improvement in the banking system could be made available, gold would become less requisite, and the country be supplied with a stationary medium of exchange originating with ourselves.

Whilst directing the energies of the State in war, Mr. Pitt evinced equal ability in discovering, improving, and applying our internal resources. The war drained the country of its specie, and our enemies entertained sanguine hopes that our ruin would sooner be effected by want of pecuniary means, than the want of courage, discipline, and conduct in our armies. Mr. Pitt was more than a match for all contingencies. With the aid of the Bank of England, and other opulent houses, the energies of Great Britain were maintained in full activity, and the importance and utility of paper money were clearly established. Ingenious machines were introduced into our manufactures, and the encouragement and protection afforded them greatly increased the demand for our goods at home and abroad. Our superiority at sea gave our merchants easy access to foreign markets, and the wealth derived from trade and commerce (though to some persons it may appear paradoxical) more than covered the whole expenses of the war. When the Minister had recourse to loans, they were speedily raised by BRITISH CAPITALISTS, and the increase of the Public Debt was due from ourselves to ourselves, and resolved itself into a family account without impairing the national property. Mr. Pitt having succeeded in securing peace and independence to the Empire, whilst devoting his sole attention to the

affairs of the public, suffered his own to be very much embarrassed.—Many of his friends wished to extricate him from his difficulties, and requested me to learn from Mr. Rose in what way we could best relieve him. His reply was, “Mr. Pitt is the most unaccountable of human beings, and will prefer living in a garret to being indebted to the bounty of his friends.” Though disappointed, the opinion I had long entertained of this able Minister’s high character was not diminished.

The present panic and distress in the country have been declared by high authority to proceed from “over-trading” and “wild speculation.” Infant nations and establishments are liable to miscarry from want of experience and solidity.—TRADING and SPECULATION being natives of this Island, and parents of our wealth and independence, are surely exempt from such an imputation. The same authority has declared that “gold and paper money are incompatible with each other, and cannot exist together.”—The population and trade of the Empire having been much increased, a proportionate increase in the medium of circulation is called for; and when gold is found insufficient, recourse must be had to paper; which, if improved on the principle already suggested, the two substances would be found in the same pocket without disunion.

Anxious to see our situation ameliorated, I trust the Currency may be mended without changing or impairing the national and commercial character; which measure, if resorted to, would resemble the policy of diverting from its course a powerful river that had long given fertility and happiness to a large district, merely because, from excessive rains, it had sometimes exceeded its natural limits, and produced partial injury.

I am,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your faithful and obedient  
servant;

ROBERT PEEL.

Drayton Manor, April 8.



You begin by saying that you are an old man, and that you sat in Parliament *thirty years*. From being *old* you derive no merit whatever, nor any title to forbearance on the part of those whom you address, nor on the part of the public. Few of the unhappy creatures who have sweated out their lives in the spinning-jenny regions have, perhaps, lived to your age; but, merely on account of your age, you are no more worthy of respect than any one of them. You are become old without any thanks to you, and, I dare say, even in despite of your wishes to the contrary. The honours of old age are coveted by no man, and when put forward as pretensions, they never fail to excite contempt. Age ought, indeed, to teach men wisdom, and a love of truth, at least; but, in these respects it appears to have had very little effect upon you.

As to the circumstance of your having sat in Parliament during nearly thirty years, that is a strong argument against listening to you for a moment, upon the subject on which you have ventured to write. If a man were to tell us that he had sitten in the chimney-corner of an ale-house for thirty years, we should not be much disposed to listen to his advice on that account; and especially if we found that the beef of the House continued to grow worse and worse all the time that he had been sitting there. Why, *ELFORD*, Sir Wm. *Elford*, as he is called, sat in that House about as long as you did. He, like you, constantly supported *PITT* and paper-money; he, like you, was made a Baronet by *PITT*; and all the difference between you is, that you have been lucky, and that, at

last, *ELFORD* has been unlucky. If the affairs of the nation had been improved while you sat in Parliament; then, indeed, your having sitten there might have been an argument for listening to your advice; but, as precisely the contrary is notoriously the fact, your putting forward of that circumstance amounts to nothing but an empty, a ridiculous boast.

You come forward, at this time, to endeavour to prop up the paper-system, that accursed system which God and man have doomed to destruction. I do not know that I shall find either time or inclination to combat your doctrines and your scheme; but, the falsehoods of your address it is necessary to detect and expose, and I shall take these separately, and place them, one by one, in separate paragraphs.

1. You assert that "a reliance on a metallic circulation alone ever did, and ever will, fail us. Gold often disappears in consequence of war or speculation; nay, the breath of rumour itself, is sufficient to disperse it." This is falsehood the first, and, certainly, a more impudent lie never found its way into print. The lie may not be intentional; for you are manifestly so grossly ignorant and illiterate a man, that you may, possibly, not know that there ever was a time when paper-money was unknown in England; though it is notorious, to all men of sense, that, even since you began to sit in Parliament, there were several years that England knew nothing of paper, as a circulating medium; and that it is only since the "Glorious Revolution" that the sight of an Englishman was ever blasted by such a thing as a bank note. For a thousand years Eng-

land was a great country, a great and powerful kingdom; for a thousand years these three courts of justice, and these twelve judges have existed, and during the whole time there was no money that was not made of metal; no standard of value, not issued by a prerogative of the King.

2. "The wealth derived from trade and commerce more than covered the expenses of the late war." What an impudent falsehood is here! If they covered the expenses of the war, how comes it that that war, including the dead weight, which makes a part of the expense of it, has added nearly, if not quite, eight hundred millions to the debt? Answer me that question, thou Baronet, who subscribed ten thousand pounds for the carrying on of that war, and who was made a baronet soon after the subscription. If there were wealth derived from trade and commerce during the war, those engaged in the trade kept the profits, fattened by the war, while the nation was plunged in debt and ruin. When we say that expenses are covered, we mean that they are paid; and the expenses of the war were not paid: they have yet to be paid by us and our children: they are now causing horrid starvation and crime amongst a people once so well fed and so virtuous; they are scaring the Ministers half out of their senses; they are shaking the country to its very base.

3. "Mr. Pitt succeeded in securing peace and independence to the empire." In the Baronetcy, I read in the pedigree of your illustrious family, that you had a "*presentiment*" that you should be "the founder of a

family!" What a pretty family that must be, if the members of it should be as much given to impudence and lying as yourself. Pitt died in January, 1806: the country was then engaged in war with that same enemy on whom he had made war. That enemy was more victorious then, than at any former period: there was not only no peace, but no prospect of peace, when Pitt died; and, as to the "*independence*" of the "*empire*," as silly coxcombs call it, when was it other than independent? This independence is a silly word, thus used, which means any thing or nothing; and as to the empire, we have, indeed, now got an imperial gallon, and an imperial yard; and, had not the late panic luckily come in time, I verily believe that we should have been blessed with an Emperor in a very short time. We have escaped this, at any rate, and therefore, thanks to the "*late panic*;" for, most assuredly, like the *Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, we shall have felt our expenses augment with the elevation of our rank and title.

4. "Mr. Pitt was the most unaccountable of human beings, and would prefer living in a garret to being indebted to the bounty of his friends." You relate this as the report of Old George Rose. The lie may be Rose's or it may be yours; but that it is a lie, all the world knows; unless we look upon the words friends not to mean the country; and every one is pretty well satisfied that the country was a good friend of Pitt. In the first place, he received from the country twelve thousand pounds or thereabouts, for a great number of years; in the next place, he bor-

rowed money, of his friends; or, at least, they said so, and the country had to pay the debt after his death; and it is notorious to all the world that he never lived in a garret. The curiosity is, that there was money to pay on his account, to Mr. Wm. HUSKISSON, to whom he had given a contingent pension of twelve hundred a-year for life, and to whose wife he had given a contingent pension of six hundred a-year for life.

Such are the direct lies contained in your address, and published in the newspaper above mentioned. Next come some proofs of your gross ignorance or of your wilful deceit. "When the Minister had recourse to loans, they were speedily raised by British capitalists, and the increase of the public debt was *due from ourselves to ourselves*; and resolved itself into a *family account* without impairing the *national property*!" You have, certainly, been in a trance for the last ten years. This old humbug of having it all still in the family was kept up, and played off with great success till the wheat came to be about five shillings a bushel, and then it was discovered, even by the Jolterheads themselves, that the increase of the debt was not due from ourselves to ourselves; but due to the tax-eater from the tax-payer; and it was found to resolve itself into a process by which the Jews and Jobbers and the tax-eaters of all descriptions, including the paper-money makers and the monopolists, sucked up the estates of the landlord, the stock of the farmer and the tradesman, and the wages of the labourer. Awake from your trance, worthy old veteran of

thirty years' service in Parliament; awake from your trance, and go and see the wretched creatures in the North, doomed to the suffocating heat of eighty-four degrees, driven to horse-flesh and draff (grains), or to eat out of pig troughs; go, veteran legislator, who assisted to make the first small notes that ever cursed the country; go, I say, and hear the judges of the Court of King's Bench observe, that bread and water are now the common food of the labourers of England; go, read in the reports to the Parliament itself, that potatoes, and potatoes alone, are the food of the labourers in Wiltshire; go, impudent defender of this accursed system, and ask these wretched beings what share comes to them, out of this family account; and when you have done that; when you have had a sight of the ruin, the despair, the endless crimes, the misery insupportable that this family account has occasioned; when you have done this, go, join your hopeful son in his hopeful projects for checking crime, by offering rewards for the detection and prosecution of offenders, a thing never heard of in England, until the very year in which the horrid word BANK first found its way into a law.

WM. COBBETT.

## PROTESTANT "REFORMATION."

I HAVE NOW made good my promise, with regard to this work. The last number of which was published last Saturday. Any of the numbers may be had at Fleet Street, and it may be had in com-

plete volumes, price four shillings, with a title, table of contents, &c. &c. But this cannot be done, until next week.

### SCOTCH BANKS.

From what one reads in the Parliamentary Debates, and in the newspapers, one might imagine that the Scotch people were the greatest fools or the basest wretches upon the face of the earth; seeing that we hear nothing through those channels, which is not calculated to make us believe that they wish for a perpetual paper money; that is to say, perpetual robbing of all the working classes of the people. This is, however, far from being the case. The plundered parties wish the plunder to cease. They do not pray the Parliament to cause them to continue to be robbed. I have several communications upon this subject. Several accounts of people fruitlessly demanding gold of the Banks, and of one demand where the man who made it was threatened with being kicked into the street, if he did not desist. I will go and try these Scotch Banks, as I tried the Gurneys at Norwich. In the meanwhile, justice to the Scotch people demands that I insert here, an article from the Dundee newspaper, of the ninth of March. The writer of this article is, of course, a Scotchman, the article is published in Scotland. This shews that there are some men, at any rate, who detest the paper system. This is a very sensible, very clever piece of writing, and I earnestly recommend a perusal of it to my readers.

### *The Currency—Equitable Adjustment again.*

SIR.—The importance of the subject will, I trust, plead my excuse for again troubling you respecting the currency.

In your last week's paper, your correspondent perspicuously traces the cause of the excessive issue of bank paper to excessive taxation; the fruit of the infernal borrowing and funding system, which enabled Ministers, backed by a House of Commons—not chosen by the people at large—to mortgage the labour not only of the existing generation, but of millions yet unborn; and that for the purpose of carrying on useless and bloody wars, for objects with which the people had no more concern than they have with the wars in the moon.

But, after having clearly shown that the distress proceeds from an excessive issue of paper, that this last proceeds from excessive taxation, what is the remedy proposed by your intelligent correspondent? Why, “to maintain a circulating medium commensurate with the wants of Government and the security of the people, by altering the present system of banking in England, and establishing it upon a similar footing with that of Scotland! Why, supposing this to be practicable (which it is not, without altering some of the fundamental laws of England), what is it but to continue the present vicious system of a paper currency, leaving us subject to all the fluctuations, to all the ups-and-downs of an ever-varying circulating medium, dependent not upon the Government, but upon the cupidity of private money-makers, whose interest it is to inundate the country with their paper—raising prices to-day, by their over-issues—diminishing them to-morrow, by their over-caution—and in short, keeping us in that horrible state of uncertainty in which no man can foresee the issue of any transaction into which he may enter; and re-

ducing all speculation to sheer gambling, setting judgment at naught, and leaving every thing to chance!

True, our Scottish banks have hitherto been conducted on a plan which has given general satisfaction, and in consequence of which hardly any loss has ever accrued to those who dealt with them; but our laws, different in many respects from those of England, are favourable to mutual confidence between the banks and their customers. And besides, the narrowness of our country enables us, in any part of it, to ascertain with certainty the respectability of these establishments in any other part of it, however distant. This can never be the case in England; and as the wealth of Scotland is very small compared to that of her Southern neighbours, perhaps, as far as we are concerned, it may be prudent in Ministers to leave untouched our present banking system; at least until we ourselves shall complain of it, or till some bad effects shall notoriously have been produced by it. But whatever may be determined on respecting Scotland, if England is to be freed from the horrible misery with which she is at present assailed, and which may possibly end in convulsions from the contemplation of which the mind recoils, her currency must be placed on a metallic basis; which will render impossible those sudden fits and gleams of prosperity which have of late occasionally shone forth upon us, only to be followed by the gloom of deepest misery and darkest despair. Let us look across the water—to France. In that country, fortunately for it, the *paper race* was very soon run. When the assignats first appeared, the gold disappeared; but as, in spite of the most sanguinary laws, two prices—namely, a gold and a paper price—soon established themselves, the gold, finding its value acknowledged, again came forth, and the worthless assignats were, in their turn, compelled to disappear; leaving, as the paper of the broken banks

in England has done, many thousands of people plunged in despair. The debt had been greatly augmented: the revenue, *in consequence of the diminution of the circulating medium*, greatly fell off, *as ours will infallibly do by and by*, if a metallic currency is enforced. It no longer sufficed for the expenses of the Government and for paying the interest of the debt, *in full*. What did the Government do? In spite of the senseless clamour of “*national honour*,” “*breach of faith*,” &c., they saw that the majority were not to be sacrificed for a small minority, and they boldly cut down two-thirds of the national debt, thereby freeing themselves of a load which oppressed the nation and cramped all their energies—rendering them alike unable to quell internal commotions or to resist their enemies from without. Was this a breach of faith? Most undoubtedly it was; and although it might be defended on the ground that the safety of the majority is paramount to all other considerations, yet it was a most palpable breach of faith, because it was not accompanied by a law for an Equitable Adjustment of all contracts and debts due by individuals, as well as of those due by the State. Since the above period, the circulating medium of France has been almost wholly gold and silver; the latter being a legal tender to any amount, and the former bearing generally a small premium, varying from two to ten francs per thousand. The Bank of France is the only company which is allowed to issue notes, and these only of two sums,—namely, of a thousand francs and of five hundred, equal to about 40*l.* and 20*l.* sterling; and, even of these, the issue is very limited. The consequence is; that prices there do not fluctuate as they have done here: that when a man makes a contract for time there, he can calculate, to a certainty, on his means of fulfilling his contract; and not, as too frequently has happened here, that a person, when called upon to fulfil his

contract, finds his securities melted in his hands like so much loose snow: that while we are stunned with the number of bankruptcies and the quantity of misery here, in a time of profound peace and plenty, we hear neither of bankruptcies nor distress there! And, in fine, that although their public securities have been somewhat pulled down through sympathy with ours, yet they have not fallen half the extent that ours have done in the same period!—Now, Sir, if these are, as I think it is evident they are, the fruits of a substantial metallic currency, what are we to think of the wisdom of those who would propose to perpetuate to us the curse of a base paper currency? Why, merely that they would grasp at any expedient that was likely to relieve us from our present distress, regardless of the infinitely greater misery into which their measures would plunge us at no distant period. Had your intelligent correspondent reflected on the consequences, he never would have proposed a continuation of the paper-system. He would have seen that we have the choice of only two things—and these are, either his plan of perpetual paper, which, after another short gleam of prosperity, would very soon settle the whole affair in a way that I don't choose to particularize; or, the return to a metallic currency, accompanied by an equitable adjustment of all contracts and debts however constituted, —a plan in which I defy the keenest casuist to point out *the smallest injustice*; for, as I endeavoured to explain, in my letter of the 4th current, if we are all reduced proportionably, we shall still find ourselves exactly in the same relative situation to one another as that in which we stood previous to the reduction, and consequently, none of us could have any reason to complain. Without this, to return to a metallic currency is impossible; and the very attempt to do so would produce convulsions of which no man can foresee the result.

Ministers, notwithstanding their present determined tone, are like the whistling schoolboy, merely talking big “to keep their courage up.” They must yield, as they have already done, like reeds before the storm; and as they have neither heads nor nerves qualifying them to undertake the equitable adjustment plan, they will probably, long before the 6th of October, fall upon some scheme to continue a paper circulating medium, “commensurate with the wants of the Government and the security of the people;” (strange security!) And then—we shall perhaps be worse off than we have yet been; although, in the end, we shall be gainers, by the destruction of the vile oligarchical system, which, while it grinds the people to the earth, paralyzes the endeavours of Government to ameliorate their condition. It is this which, if Ministers were even willing to do it, would prevent them adopting the equitable adjustment plan; because, away would instantly go that pestilent sore in a free country—the standing army; away would go a large proportion of the revenues paid to Mother Church; away would go all sinecures, unmerited pensions, useless ambassadorships, secretaryships, et hoc genus omne, so very convenient for providing snug places for meritorious younger sons, younger brothers, and cousins of dukes, marquises, and viscounts, who greatly prefer living at ease upon the fruits of the labour of the people, to toiling or mowing to earn an honest livelihood for themselves. Away would go all these infernal engines for extracting from the people the hard-earned fruits of their honest industry; and lastly, away would go the oligarchs themselves to—I care not whither. Wishing them bon voyage, “speedily and soon,”

I am, &c.,

A POLITICAL ECONOMIST,  
BUT NOT OF THE MACCULLOCH SCHOOL.

February 27, 1826.

## CORN BILL.

THIS Bill would soon become nugatory, if left to itself. It is impossible for the landlords to get rents, with the present expenses and a gold currency, whether this Bill be repealed or not. But this Bill is a horrible piece of injustice inflicted upon the working classes *as things are, at present*; and, therefore, it ought to be repealed. The landlords receive it as a sort of *boon*; and all that it really will produce them in future is: the destitution of the rest of the community, which they will most richly deserve, if they do not cause the Bill to be repealed, if possible, and seek to save their estates by a reduction of the taxes. The markets for cattle have, invariably, fallen one-fourth, since November last. The corn markets, taking the six sorts of corn altogether, have fallen about one-fifth, since November last, though corn is certainly scarce. The fall is much more rapid than it was at the last tumble down, and yet, the one-pound notes from the Bank of England are pouring forth in prodigious quantities, especially in the dock-yard towns, and other places where Government pay takes place. This is, I suppose, with a view of *putting a piece of gold in the pocket of every poor man*. However, this will not do, nor will any thing do, but a return to Bank Restriction, or, a coming to an equitable adjustment, in which last case, farewell to sweet sinecures, pensions and jobs. When Mr. Huskisson's pension of twelve hundred a year was settled on him for life, wheat was at twelve shillings a bushel; and,

is he to have the same nominal sum when wheat is now seven shillings a bushel? I am for his having none at all; but is he to have, in reality, double of what was settled upon him, and Mrs. Emily his wife? This never can be. The thing is impossible. There must be an equitable adjustment, or there will be a dreadful convulsion.

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“WAUST  
IMPROVEMENTS, MA'AM.”

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GREAT as these “improvements” have been of late years; vast as have been the “improvements” in barracks, goals, tread mills, whipping posts, and various other things, none have been so great as the “improvements” in the criminal law. I have no time to say more upon this subject, at present, but I shall just insert here, without comment, the new Bill of that enterprising young *Ministre de l'Interieur*, Mr. PEEL. These are your true revolutionists; these are your topsyturvy gentlemen; these are the men ready to pull things to pieces. I abhor this new project, my reasons for which I shall give in my next; and in the meanwhile I beg my readers to go through it with the greatest attention.

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A BILL FOR IMPROVING THE  
ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN ENGLAND.

[As amended by the Committee.]

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Whereas it is expedient to define under what circumstances persons may be admitted to bail in cases of felony, and to make better provision

for taking examinations, informations, bailments, and recognizances, and returning the same to the proper tribunals :

And whereas the technical strictness of criminal proceedings might in many instances be relaxed, so as to ensure the punishment of the guilty, without depriving the accused of any means of defence ; and the administration of justice in that part of the United Kingdom called England might in other respects be rendered more efficient ; be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that where any person shall be taken on a charge of felony or suspicion of felony, before any Justice of the Peace, and the charge shall be supported by positive evidence of the fact, or by such evidence as, if not explained or contradicted, shall, in the opinion of the Justice, raise a strong presumption of the guilt of the person charged, such person shall not be admitted to bail by any Justice or Justices of the Peace, either in or out of sessions, but shall be committed to prison by the Justice before whom he or she shall be so charged, in the manner hereinafter mentioned ; and where any person shall be charged with felony or suspicion of felony, and the evidence given in support of the charge shall, in the opinion of two Justices of the Peace, not be such as to raise a strong presumption of the guilt of the person charged, or such evidence shall be adduced on behalf of the person charged, as shall in their opinion weaken the presumption of his or her guilt, but there shall notwithstanding appear to them to be sufficient ground for judicial inquiry into his or her guilt, in such case the person charged shall and may be admitted to bail by such two Justices, in the manner hereinafter mentioned.

And whereas it is expedient to

amend and extend the provisions of two Acts—the first passed in the first and second years of the reign of King Philip and Queen Mary, intituled, “An Act appointing an order to Justices of Peace for the bailment of prisoners,” and the second passed in the second and third years of the same reign, intituled, “An Act to take examination of prisoners suspected of manslaughter or felony,”—be it therefore enacted, that before any two Justices of the Peace shall admit to bail, or any one Justice shall commit to prison, any person arrested for felony, or suspicion of felony, such Justices and Justice respectively shall take the examination of such person, and the information upon oath of those who shall know the facts and circumstances of the case, and shall put the same, or as much thereof as shall be material, into writing, and such Justices shall certify such bailment in writing, and subscribe the same ; and every such Justice shall have authority to bind by recognizance all such persons as know or declare any thing material touching any such felony or suspicion of felony, to appear at the next Court of Oyer and Terminer, gaol delivery, or superior criminal court of a County Palatine, or great Sessions, or Sessions of the Peace, at which the trial thereof is intended to be, then and there to prosecute or give evidence against the party accused ; and such Justices and Justice respectively shall deliver or cause to be delivered all such examinations, informations, bailments, and recognizances, to the Court in which the trial is to be, at the opening of the Court on its first sitting.

And be it further enacted, that every Justice of the Peace, before whom any person shall be taken on a charge of misdemeanor or suspicion thereof, shall take the examination of the person charged, and the information upon oath of those who shall know the facts and circumstances of the case, and shall put the same, or as much thereof as shall be



material, into writing, before he shall admit to bail or commit to prison the person so charged, and in every case of bailment shall certify the bailment in writing, and subscribe the same; and shall have authority to bind all persons by recognizance to appear to prosecute or give evidence against the party accused, in like manner as in cases of felony; and shall deliver or cause to be delivered all examinations, informations, bailments, and recognizances to the Court in which the trial is to be, at the opening of the Court on its first sitting, in like manner as in cases of felony.

And be it further enacted, that every Coroner, upon any inquisition before him found, whereby any person shall be indicted for manslaughter or murder, or as an accessory to murder before the fact, shall put in writing the evidence given to the Jury before him, or as much thereof as shall be material; and shall have authority to bind by recognizance all such persons as know or declare any thing material touching the said manslaughter or murder, or the said offence of being accessory to murder, to appear at the said court of oyer and terminer, gaol-delivery, or superior criminal court of a county palatine, or great sessions, at which the trial is to be, then and there to prosecute or give evidence against the party so indicted; and every such Coroner shall certify and subscribe the same evidence, and all such recognizances, and also the inquisition before him taken and found, and shall deliver the same to the court in which the trial is to be, at the opening of the Court on its first sitting.

And be it further enacted, that if any Justice or Coroner shall offend in any thing contrary to the true intent and meaning of these provisions, every court of oyer and terminer, gaol-delivery, superior criminal court of a county palatine, court of great sessions, or sessions of the peace, to which any such examination, information, evidence, bailment,

recognizance, or inquisition ought to have been delivered, shall, upon examination and proof of the offence in a summary manner, set such fine upon every such Justice or Coroner as the Court shall deem meet.

And be it further enacted, that all these provisions relating to Justices and Coroners shall apply as well to the Justices and Coroners of small jurisdictions as of counties at large.

And whereas divers Statutes, taking away the benefit of Clergy, or creating felonies without benefit of Clergy, have omitted to take away the benefit of Clergy under certain circumstances consequent upon the indictment of the offender: And whereas a partial remedy for such defects was supplied by an Act passed in the third year of the reign of King William and Queen Mary, intituled, "An Act to take away Clergy from some offenders, and to bring others to punishment;" whereby it was enacted, that if any person should be indicted of any offence for which, by virtue of any former Statute, such person was excluded from the benefit of Clergy, if convicted by verdict or confession, such person should not be admitted to the benefit of Clergy under any of the circumstances therein enumerated; and whereas it is expedient to extend the like remedy to all offences which now are or hereafter shall be excluded from the benefit of Clergy: Be it therefore enacted, that if any person shall be indicted of any offence for which, by virtue of this, or of any other statute or statutes now in force, or hereafter to be in force, the offender, upon conviction, is or shall be excluded from the benefit of clergy, such person shall be equally excluded from the benefit of clergy, whether he or she shall be convicted by verdict or by confession, or shall upon arraignment stand mute of malice, or will not answer directly to the charge, or shall challenge peremptorily above the number of twenty persons returned to be of the Jury, or shall be outlawed upon such

indictment, although the statute or statutes taking away the benefit of clergy in any such case, may not expressly provide that the offender shall be excluded from the benefit of clergy in case such offender shall confess, or stand mute, or not answer directly, or challenge peremptorily above the number of twenty persons returned to be of the Jury, or be outlawed; and every thing herein contained shall extend as well to all accessaries as to principals.

And with regard to any clergyable felonies, be it enacted, that if any person shall be indicted for any felony for which the offender is or shall be entitled to the benefit of clergy, and such person shall, on arraignment, confess the felony, or stand mute of malice, or will not answer directly to the charge, or shall challenge peremptorily above the number of twenty persons returned to be of the Jury, or shall be outlawed upon such indictment, in every such case such person shall be deemed and taken to be convicted of the felony, and the Court shall award such judgment as if such person had been convicted by verdict; and every thing herein contained shall extend as well to all accessaries as to principals.

And for the more effectual prosecution and punishment of accessaries to felonies, be it enacted, that if any person shall become an accessory, either before or after the fact, to any felony, whether the same be a felony at common law, or by virtue of any statute or statutes now in force, or hereafter to be in force, the offence of such person may be inquired of, tried, determined, and punished by any Court which shall have jurisdiction to try the principal felon, in the same manner as if the act, by reason whereof such person shall have become an accessory, had been committed at the same place as the principal felony, although such act may have been committed either on the high seas, or at any other place on land, whether within his Majesty's dominions or without; and that in case

the principal felony shall have been committed within the body of any other county, the offence of such accessory shall and may be inquired of, tried, determined, and punished, in either of such counties: provided always, that no person who shall be once duly tried for any offence of being an accessory, shall be liable to be again indicted, or tried for the same offence.

And in order that accessaries may be convicted and punished in cases where the principal felon is not attainted, or hath the benefit of clergy, be it enacted, that if any principal offender shall be in anywise convicted of any felony, it shall be lawful to proceed against any accessory, either before or after the fact, in the same manner as if such principal felon had been attainted thereof, notwithstanding such principal felon shall be admitted to the benefit of clergy, or pardoned, or otherwise delivered before attainder; and every such accessory shall suffer the same punishment, as if he or she be in anywise convicted, as he or she should have suffered if the principal had been attainted.

And whereas it is expedient that principals in the second degree and accessaries, before the fact, should in all cases be subjected to the same punishment as the principal felons in the first degree; be it therefore enacted, that every person who shall be a principal in the second degree, or an accessory before the fact, to any offence which shall be a felony at common law, or by virtue of any statute or statutes now in force, or hereafter to be in force, shall be punishable with or without benefit of clergy, in the same manner as the principal felon in the first degree, although neither the statute or statutes relating to the principal felon in the first degree, nor any other statute, do or shall expressly name the offence of the principal in the second degree, or of the accessory before the fact, or do or shall expressly provide any punishment for the same, and although

any statute now in force may expressly provide a different punishment for the same; provided always, that nothing herein contained shall affect or alter any act which hath provided or may provide that accessaries before the fact, to burglary, robbery, and larceny, may be prosecuted before the conviction of the principal offenders.

And in order to obviate the difficulty of proof as to all offences committed near the boundaries of counties, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on the boundary or boundaries of two or more counties, or within the distance of five hundred yards of any such boundary or boundaries, it shall be sufficient to allege that such felony or misdemeanor was committed in any of the said counties; and every such felony or misdemeanor shall and may be inquired of, tried, determined, and punished, in the county within which the same shall be so alleged to have been committed, in the same manner as if it had been actually committed therein.

And in order to obviate the difficulty of proof as to offences committed during journeys from place to place, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on any person or on any property, in or upon any stage coach, stage wagon, stage cart, or other such carriage whatever, employed in any journey, it shall be sufficient to allege that such felony or misdemeanor was committed within any county or place through any part whereof such coach, wagon, cart, or carriage shall have passed in the course of the journey during which such felony or misdemeanor shall have been committed; and in all cases where the side, centre, or other part of any highway shall constitute the boundary of any two counties, it shall be sufficient to allege that the felony or misdemeanor was committed in either of the said counties through or adjoining to or

by the boundary of any part whereof such coach, wagon, cart, or carriage shall have passed, in the course of the journey during which such felony or misdemeanor shall have been committed; and in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on any person, or on any property, on board any vessel whatever, employed on any voyage or journey upon any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation, it shall be sufficient to allege that such felony or misdemeanor was committed within any county or place through any part whereof such vessel shall have passed in the course of the voyage or journey during which such felony or misdemeanor shall have been committed; and in all cases where the side or bank of any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation, or the centre or other part thereof, shall constitute the boundary of any two counties, it shall be sufficient to allege that such felony or misdemeanor was committed in either of the said counties, through or adjoining to or by the boundary of any part whereof such vessel shall have passed in the course of the voyage or journey, during which such felony or misdemeanor shall have been committed; and every such felony or misdemeanor, committed in any of the cases aforesaid, shall and may be inquired of, tried, determined, and punished, in the county or place within which the same shall be so alleged to have been committed, in the same manner as if it had actually been committed therein.

And in order to remove the difficulty of describing the ownership of property in the case of partners and joint owners, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any money, chattel, bond, bill, note, or other valuable security or effects belonging to or in the possession of any partners or joint owners, it shall be sufficient to aver that the particular subject matter on which or with respect to which any

such offence shall have been committed is the property of some one or more of the partners or joint owners named in the indictment, and of other persons being partners or joint owners with him or them, without stating any of the names of such other persons, and that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any house or building whatsoever, belonging to or in the possession of any partners or joint owners, or for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any property being in any such house or building, it shall be sufficient to aver that the particular house or building on or with respect to which, or on or with respect to the property being in which, any such offence shall have been committed, is the property of some one or more of the partners or joint owners named in the indictment, and of other persons being partners or joint owners with him or them, without stating any of the names of such other persons.

And with regard to frauds committed against partners and joint owners, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed with intent to defraud any partners or joint owners, it shall be sufficient to allege that the act was committed with intent to defraud any one or more of the partners or joint owners named in the indictment, and other persons being partners or joint owners with him or them, without stating any of the names of such other persons.

And with respect to property belonging to counties, ridings, and divisions, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any goods, chattels, furniture, provisions, clothes, tools, utensils, materials, or things whatsoever, which have been or at any time shall be provided for or at the expense of any county, riding, or division, to be used in any Court, Gaol, House of

Correction, or other building or place, or in any part thereof respectively, or to be used for the making, altering, or repairing any bridge, it shall be sufficient to aver that any such things are the property of the inhabitants of such county, riding, or division, without specifying the names of any of such inhabitants.

And with respect to property belonging to parishes, townships, and hamlets, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any goods, chattels, furniture, provisions, clothes, tools, utensils, materials, or things whatsoever, which have been or at any time shall be provided for the use of the poor of any parish or parishes, township or townships, hamlet or hamlets, place or places, or to be used in any workhouse in or belonging to the same, or by the master or mistress of such workhouse, or by any workmen or servants employed therein, it shall be sufficient to aver that any such things are the property of the overseers of the poor for the time being of such parish or parishes, township or townships, hamlet or hamlets, place or places, without specifying the names of all or any of such overseers; and in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any materials, tools, or implements, which have been or shall be provided for making, altering, or repairing any highway (not being a turnpike road) within any parish, township, hamlet, or place, it shall be sufficient to aver, that any such things are the property of the surveyor or surveyors of the highways for the time being of such parish, township, hamlet, or place, without specifying the name or names of any such surveyor or surveyors.

And with respect to property belonging to turnpike trusts, be it enacted, that in any indictment for any felony or misdemeanor committed on or with respect to any tollgate, tollhouse, weighing-machine,

or other erection or building, lamp, bar, toll-board, direction-board, milestone, post, rail, fence, or other thing, which hath been or shall be erected and provided in pursuance of an Act of Parliament for making any turnpike road, or any of the conveniences or appurtenances thereunto respectively belonging, or any materials, tools, or implements, which have been or shall be provided for making, altering, or repairing any such road, it shall be sufficient to aver that any such things are the property of the trustees or commissioners of such road, without specifying the names of any of such trustees or commissioners.

And that the punishment of offenders may be less frequently interrupted by undue attention to technical niceties, be it enacted, that no judgment upon any indictment or information for any felony or misdemeanor, whether after verdict or outlawry, or by confession or by default, shall be stayed or reversed for want of the averment of any matter unnecessary to be proved, nor for want of an addition, nor on account of an improper, imperfect, or insufficient addition to the name of the defendant, nor for want of and profert, nor for the omission of the words "as appears by the record," or of the words "with force any arms," or of the words "against the peace," or of words of the like import with any of the foregoing words, nor for the insertion of the words "against the form of the statute," instead of the words "against the form of the statutes," or *vice versa*, nor for that any person or persons mentioned in the indictment or information is or are designated by a name of office, or other descriptive appellation, instead of his, her, or their proper name or names, nor for omitting to state the time at which the offence was committed, or stating the time imperfectly, or stating the offence to have been committed on a day subsequent to the finding of the indictment or exhibiting the infor-

mation, or on an impossible day, or on a day that never happened, nor for want of a proper or perfect venue, provided the offence shall appear by the indictment or information to have been laid in the proper county.

And be it further enacted, that no judgment after verdict upon any indictment or information for any felony or misdemeanor, shall be stayed or reversed for want of a *similiter*, nor by reason that the jury process has been awarded to a wrong officer upon an insufficient suggestion, nor for any misnomer or misdescription of the officer returning such process, or of any of the jurors, nor because any person has served upon the jury who has not been returned as a juror by the Sheriff or other officer; and that where the offence charged has been created by any statute, or excluded from the benefit of clergy by any statute, the indictment or information shall be held sufficient if it describe the offence in the words of the statute.

And with regard to the payment of the expenses of prosecutions for felony, be it enacted, that the Court before which any person shall be prosecuted or tried for any felony, is hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of the prosecutor, or of any other person, who shall appear on recognizance or subpoena to prosecute or give evidence against any person accused of any felony, to order the Treasurer of the county, riding or division, in which the offence shall have been committed, to pay unto the prosecutor the costs and expenses which such prosecutor shall incur in preferring the indictment, and also to pay to the prosecutor and witnesses for the prosecution, such sums of money as to the Court shall seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor and witnesses for the expenses they shall have severally incurred in attending before the examining magistrate or magistrates and the Grand Jury, and in otherwise carrying on such prosecution, and also to compensate them

for their trouble and loss of time therein; and, although no bill of indictment be preferred, it shall still be lawful for the Court, where any person shall, in the opinion of the Court *bona fide* have attended the Court, in obedience to any such recognizance or subpoena, to order the Treasurer of the county, riding or division, in which the offence shall have been committed, or shall be supposed to have been committed, to pay unto such person such sum of money as to the Court shall seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such person for the expenses which he or she shall have *bona fide* incurred by reason of attending before the examining magistrate or magistrates, and by reason of such recognizance or subpoena, and also to compensate such person for trouble and loss of time; and the amount of the expenses of attending before the examining magistrate or magistrates, and the compensation for trouble and loss of time therein shall be ascertained by the certificate of such magistrate or magistrates, granted before the trial or attendance in Court, if such magistrate or magistrates shall think fit to grant the same; and the amount of the other expenses and compensation shall be ascertained by the proper officer of the Court.

And be it further enacted, that every order for payment to any prosecutor or other person as aforesaid, shall be forthwith made out and delivered by the proper officer of the Court, unto such prosecutor or other person, upon being paid for the same the sum of oneshillling and no more; and the Treasurer of the county, riding, or division, is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of every such order, forthwith to pay to the person named therein, or to any one duly authorized to receive the same on his or her behalf, the money in such order mentioned, and shall be allowed the same in his accounts.

And whereas by the law, as it now stands, no Court has power to order payment of the expenses of any pro-

secution for a misdemeanor, and many individuals are deterred by the expense from prosecuting persons guilty of misdemeanors, who thereby escape the punishment due to their offences; for remedy thereof, be it enacted, that where any prosecutor or other person shall appear before any Court on recognizance or subpoena, or where, in the case of an indictment removed by *certiorari* at the instance of any defendant, any prosecutor shall appear without recognizance or subpoena, or any other person shall appear on subpoena, to prosecute or give evidence against any person accused of any assault with intent to commit felony, of any attempt to commit felony, of any riot, of any misdemeanor for receiving any stolen property, knowing the same to have been stolen, of any assault on a peace officer in the execution of his duty, or upon any person being in aid of such officer, of any neglect of duty as a peace officer, of any assault committed in pursuance of any conspiracy to raise the rate of wages, of uttering counterfeit money, knowing the same to be counterfeit, of knowingly and designedly obtaining any property by false pretences, of keeping a common gaming-house, a common bawdy-house, or a common ill-governed or disorderly house, of wilful and indecent exposure of the person, of wilful and corrupt perjury, or of subornation of perjury, every such Court, in any of the cases aforesaid, is hereby authorized and empowered to order payment of the costs and expenses of the prosecutor and witnesses for the prosecution, together with a compensation for their trouble and loss of time, in the same manner as Courts are hereinbefore authorized and empowered to order the same in cases of felony; and, although no Bill of indictment be preferred, it shall still be lawful for the Court, where any person shall have *bona fide* attended the Court in obedience to any recognizance or subpoena, in any of the cases aforesaid, to order payment of the expenses

of such person, together with a compensation for his or her trouble and loss of time, in the same manner as in cases of felony; provided that, in cases of misdemeanor, the power of ordering the payment of expenses and compensation shall not extend to the attendance before the examining magistrate; and every order for payment in any of the cases aforesaid, shall be forthwith made out and delivered, by the proper officer of the Court, to prosecutors and other persons with the same payment, and shall be paid by and allowed to the Treasurer of the county, riding, or division, in the same manner as similar orders are made out, delivered, paid, and allowed, in cases of felony.

And whereas felonies and such misdemeanors as are hereinbefore enumerated, may be committed in liberties, franchises, cities, towns, and places, which do not contribute to the payment of any County Rate, some of which raise a rate in the nature of a County Rate, and others have neither any such rate, nor any fund applicable to similar purposes, and it is just that such liberties, franchises, cities, towns, and places, should be charged with all costs, expenses, and compensations, ordered by virtue of this Act, in respect of felonies and such misdemeanors committed therein respectively, be it therefore enacted, that all sums directed to be paid by virtue of this Act, in respect of felonies, and of such misdemeanors as aforesaid, committed, or supposed to have been committed in such liberties, franchises, cities, towns, and places, shall be paid out of the rate, in the nature of a County Rate, where there is such a rate, by the Treasurer or other Officer having the collection or disbursement of such rate; and where there is no such rate in such liberties, franchises, cities, towns, or places, shall be paid by the Overseers of the Poor of the parish, township, or precinct therein, where the offence was committed, or supposed to have been

committed, out of the rate levied for the relief of the poor of such parish, township, or precinct; and the order of it shall, in every such case, be directed to such Treasurer, Officers, or Overseers respectively, instead of the Treasurer of the county, riding, or division, as the case may require.

And for the better regulation of costs and expenses in the cases aforesaid, be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace of any county, riding, or division, or of any liberty, franchise, city, town, or place chargeable with costs and expenses under the provision aforesaid, in Quarter Sessions assembled, to establish, and from time to time to alter such regulations as to any costs and expenses thereafter to be allowed by virtue of this Act, for better executing the intent thereof, and for preventing unnecessary expense as to them shall seem just and reasonable; which regulations having received the approbation and signature of one Justice of Gaol Delivery, or of Great Sessions, for the county wherein any such regulations shall have been established, shall be binding on all persons whatsoever.

And for enabling the High Court of Admiralty to order the payment of the costs and expenses of prosecutors and witnesses, and compensation for their trouble and loss of time, in cases in which other Courts have a like power under this Act, be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Judge of the said Court of Admiralty, in every case of felony, and in every case of misdemeanor, of the denominations hereinbefore enumerated, committed upon the high seas, to order the assistant to the Counsel for the affairs of the Admiralty and Navy to pay such costs, expenses, and compensation, to prosecutors and witnesses, in like manner as other Courts may order the Treasurers of the County to pay the same; and such assistant is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of every such order, forthwith to pay the person named therein, or to any one

duly authorized to receive the same on his or her behalf, the money in such order mentioned, and shall be allowed the same in his accounts.

And whereas by the law, as it now stands, the power of remunerating persons who have been active in the apprehension of offenders is limited to very few cases, and it is expedient that the same should be extended to other cases equally affecting the security of life and property; be it therefore enacted, that where any person shall appear to any Court of Oyer and Terminer, gaol delivery, superior criminal court of a county palatine, or court of great sessions, to have been active in or towards the apprehension of any person charged with murder, or with feloniously and maliciously shooting at or attempting to discharge any kind of loaded fire arms at, or stabbing, cutting or poisoning any other person, or with administering any thing to procure the miscarriage of any woman, or with any burglary or felonious house-breaking, or with arson, or with rape, or with robbery on the person, or with horse-stealing, or with stealing or killing with intent to steal any sheep or other cattle, or with feloniously and maliciously destroying or in anywise damaging any loom, frame, machine, engine, rack, tool, tackle, utensil, instrument or implement used in manufacturing any woollen, silk, linen or cotton goods, or any goods of any one or more of those materials mixed with each other, or mixed with any other material, or with being accessory before the fact to any of the offences herein before respectively mentioned, or with receiving any stolen property knowing the same to have been stolen, every such Court is hereby authorized and empowered, in any of the cases aforesaid, to order the Sheriff of the county in which the offence shall have been committed, to pay to the person or persons who shall appear to the Court to have been active in or towards the apprehension of any person charged with any of the

said offences, such sum or sums of money as to the Court shall seem reasonable and sufficient to compensate such person or persons for his or their expenses, exertions, and loss of time in or towards such apprehension; and where any person shall appear to any Court of Sessions of the Peace to have been active in or towards the apprehension of any party charged with receiving stolen property, knowing the same to have been stolen, such Court shall have power to order compensation to such person, in the same manner as the other Courts hereinbefore mentioned: provided always, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any of the said Courts from also allowing to any such persons, if prosecutors or witnesses, such costs, expenses, and compensation, as Courts are by this Act empowered to allow prosecutors and witnesses respectively.

And be it further enacted, that every order for payment to any person, in respect of such apprehension as aforesaid, shall be forthwith made out and delivered by the proper Officer of the Court unto such person, upon being paid for the same the sum of one shilling and no more; and the Sheriff of the County for the time being is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay to such person, or to any one duly authorized on his or her behalf, the money in such order mentioned; and every such Sheriff shall and may immediately apply for repayment of the same to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, who, upon inspecting such order, together with the acquittance of the person entitled to receive the money thereon, shall forthwith order repayment to the Sheriff of the money so by him paid, without any fee or reward whatsoever.

And be it further enacted, that if any man shall happen to be killed in endeavouring to apprehend any person who shall be charged with any of the offences hereinbefore last mentioned, it shall be lawful for the



Court, before whom such person shall be tried, to order the Sheriff of the County to *pay to the widow of the man so killed*, in case he shall have been married, or *to his child or children*, in case his wife shall be dead, or *to his father or mother*, in case he shall have left neither wife nor child, such sum of money as to the Court in its discretion shall seem meet; and the order for payment of such money shall be made out and delivered by the proper Officer of the Court, unto the party entitled to receive the same, or unto some one on his or her behalf, to be named in such order by the direction of the Court; and every such order shall be paid by and repaid to the Sheriff, in the manner hereinbefore mentioned.

And whereas the practice of indiscriminately estreating recognizances for the appearance of persons to prosecute or give evidence, or to answer for a common assault, has been found, in many cases, productive of hardship to persons who have entered into the same; be it therefore enacted, that in every case where any person bound by recognizance for his or her appearance, or for the appearance of any other person, in any Court, to prosecute or give evidence in any case of felony or misdemeanor, or to answer for any common assault, shall therein make default, the Officer of the Court by whom the estreats are made out, shall and is hereby required to prepare a list in writing, specifying the name of every person so making default, and the nature of the offence in respect of which every such person was bound to appear, together with the residence, trade, profession, or calling of every such person, and shall in such list distinguish the principals from the sureties, and shall state the cause, if known, why every such person has not appeared, and whether by reason of the non-appearance of such person the ends of justice have been defeated or delayed; and every such Officer shall and is hereby required, before any such re-

cognizance shall be estreated, to lay such list, if at a Court of Oyer and Terminer, or Gaol Delivery, or at a Court of Great Sessions, or at one of the Superior Courts of the Counties Palatine, before one of the Justices of those Courts, respectively; if at a Court wherein a Recorder or other Corporate Officer is the Judge, or one of the Judges, before such Recorder or other Corporate Officer; and if at a Session of the Peace, before the Chairman or two other Justices of the Peace who shall have attended such Court, who are respectively authorized and required to examine such list, and to make such order touching the estreating or putting in process of any such recognizance, as shall appear to them respectively to be just; and it shall not be lawful for the officer of any Court to estreat or put in process any such recognizance, without the written order of the Justice, Recorder, Corporate Officer, Chairman, or Justices of the Peace, before whom respectively such list shall have been laid.

And be it further enacted, that from and after the commencement of this Act, so much of a Statute made at Westminster, in the third year of the reign of King Edward the First, as provides what prisoners shall not be replevisable, and what shall be so; and so much of a Statute made in the twenty-third year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, as relates to Sheriffs and other Officers and Ministers therein mentioned, letting out of prison upon sureties any person in custody upon indictment; and so much of an Act passed in the third year of the reign of King Henry the Seventh, intituled, "An Act that Justices of the Peace may take bail," as relates to bail or mainprize: and an Act passed in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth, intituled, "An Act for standing mute and peremptorily Challenge:" and so much of an Act passed in the thirty-second year of the same reign, intituled, "For the Continuation of

Acts," as perpetuates the said last-mentioned Act; and so much of an Act passed in the second and third years of the reign of King Edward the Sixth, intituled, "An Act for the trial of murders and felonies in several counties," as relates to Accessaries; and an Act passed in the fifth and sixth years of the same reign, intituled, "An Act to take away the Benefit of Clergy from such as rob in one Shire and fly into another;" and an Act passed in the first and second years of the reign of King Philip and Queen Mary, intituled, "An Act appointing an order to Justices of the Peace for the Bailment of Prisoners;" and an Act passed in the second and third years of the same reign, intituled, "An Act to take Examination of Prisoners suspected of Manslaughter or Felony;" and an Act passed in the fourth and fifth years of the same reign, intituled, "An Act that Accessaries in Murder and divers Felonies shall not have the Benefit of Clergy;" and an Act passed in the third year of the reign of King William and Queen Mary, intituled, "An Act to take away Clergy from some Offenders and to bring others to punishment," except so far as relates to the benefit thereby given to women convicted of any clergyable felony, and to the certificates therein mentioned; and an Act passed in the fourth year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act for encouraging the apprehending of Highwaymen;" and an Act passed in the tenth and eleventh years of the reign of King William, intituled, "An Act for the better apprehending, prosecuting, and punishing of Felons, that commit Burglary, Housebreaking, or Robbery in Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, or Stables, or that steal Horses," except so far as relates to discharging recognizances and drawing indictments; and so much of an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Queen Anne, intituled "An Act for punishing of Accessaries to Felonies and Receivers of Stolen

Goods, and to prevent the wilful burning and destroying of Ships," as relates to accessaries; and an Act passed in the sixth year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act for the encouraging the discovery and apprehending of Housebreakers," except the special provision affecting the Sheriffs and Under Sheriffs of London and Middlesex; and an Act passed in the sixth year of the reign of King George the First, intituled, "An Act for the further preventing Robbery, Burglary, and other Felonies, and for the more effectual Transportation of Felons;" and so much of an Act passed in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the better preventing Thefts and Robberies, and for regulating Places of Public Entertainments, and punishing Persons keeping Disorderly Houses," as relates to payments to prosecutors in cases of felony; and so much of an Act passed in the twenty-seventh year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act for the better securing to Constables and others the Expenses of conveying offenders to Gaol, and for allowing the charges of poor persons bound to give evidence against Felons," as relates to the allowance of compensation to poor persons appearing on recognizance to give evidence against any one accused of felony; and so much of an Act passed in the eighteenth year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled, "An Act for the Payment of Costs to Parties on Complaints determined before Justices of the Peace out of Sessions for the Payment of the Charges of Constables in certain cases, and for the more effectual payment of Charges to Witnesses and Prosecutors of any larceny or other felony," as relates to payments and allowances to prosecutors and other persons appearing on recognizance, or subpoena to give evidence as to any felony, and to rules and regulations touching the costs and charges to be allowed

to such prosecutors and persons; and so much of an Act passed in the forty-third year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act for remedying certain defects in the laws relative to the building and repairing of county bridges and other works maintained at the expense of the inhabitants of counties in England," as relates to laying property in the Surveyor of county bridges in any indictment; and so much of an Act passed in the same year, for providing, amongst other things, for the more convenient trial of accessaries in felonies, as relates to the trial of accessaries, except the special provisions therein contained as to accessaries before the fact in murder; and an Act passed in the fifty-sixth year of the same reign, intituled "An Act for removing Difficulties in the Conviction of Offenders stealing Property from Mines;" and an Act passed in the fifty-eighth year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act for repealing such Parts of several Acts as allow pecuniary and other Rewards upon the Conviction of Persons for Highway Robbery and other Crimes and Offences, and for facilitating the means of prosecuting Persons accused of Felony and other offences, except so much thereof as relates to disorderly Houses;" and an Act passed in the fifty-ninth year of the same reign, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the Trial of Felonies committed on board vessels employed on canals, navigable rivers, and inland navigations;" and another Act passed in the same year, intituled, "An Act to facilitate the Trials of Felonies committed on stage coaches and stage wagons, and other such carriages, and of Felonies committed on the boundaries of Counties;" and an Act passed in the first year of his present Majesty's reign, for making general the provisions of the said recited Act of the fifty-sixth year of the reign of King George the Third; and so much of an Act passed in the third year of the present reign, intituled, "An Act to

amend the General Laws now in being for regulating Turnpike Roads in that part of Great Britain called England," as relates to stating in any indictment any articles to be the property of the Clerk to the Trustees or Commissioners as therein mentioned; and an Act passed in the sixth year of the present reign, intituled, "An Act to amend two Acts for removing Difficulties in the Conviction of Offenders stealing Property in Mines and from Corporate Bodies," shall be, and the same are hereby Repealed, except so far as any of the said Acts may relate to Scotland or Ireland, or may repeal the whole or any part of any other Acts, and except as to offences committed before the passing of this Act, which shall be dealt with and punished as if this Act had not been passed.

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Resolutions of a Meeting, held at the Freemason's Tavern, and, by adjournment, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 8th February, 1826; SIR THOMAS B. BEEYOR, Bart. in the Chair.

Resolved, 1. That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that it would be beneficial to the country if Mr. Cobbett were a Member of the Commons' House of Parliament; and that it is, therefore, the opinion of this Meeting, that there ought to be raised by public subscription a sum of money sufficient for defraying any expenses that may become necessary for the accomplishment of that object.

2. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., be the Treasurer of such subscription.

3. That the subscriptions be paid to the Treasurer, or to a person authorized by him to receive subscriptions, at the Office of the Register, No. 123, Fleet-street, London.

4. That each subscriber shall, at the time of paying his subscription, receive a receipt for the same, in the

following form:—"Received of A. B. the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ as a subscription towards defraying any expenses that may arise from any steps that may be taken for the purpose of obtaining a return of Mr. Cobbett to serve in parliament."

5. That, if it should so happen that there be not raised a sum sufficient to warrant an attempt to effect the object in view, then, in the space of ten days after the close of the next general election, each and every subscriber shall, upon presenting, or causing to be presented, his aforesaid receipt to the Treasurer, or other person appointed for the purpose, receive the whole amount of the sum stated in the said receipt, without any deduction whatsoever.

6. That if any attempt be made, and fail, or if it succeed; and if, in either case, there be a surplus remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, then the whole of such surplus shall, at the end of fifty days after the close of the next general election, be, in the manner above-mentioned, returned to the subscribers, in proportion to the sums that they may respectively have subscribed: and, in order that the subscribers may be duly apprized of the share of surplus due to each, the Committee (here below named) shall cause notice to be publicly given of the amount of such surplus, and of the time for repaying it to the subscribers, upon their producing their afore-mentioned receipts. But, in order that there may be a limit to the business of the Committee and the Treasurer, it is understood that, in this case, as well as in that mentioned in Resolution 5, if the subscriber do not make his demand within *three months*, or ninety-three days, after the times above specified, the Committee shall be at liberty to dispose of the unclaimed subscriptions in that way which they may deem most proper, consulting, in this respect, as far as may be practicable, the wishes of the subscribers.

7. That each and every subscriber

may subscribe in his own name, in any other name, or under any motto or designation that he may choose, and that his receipt, when produced (either by him or by any holder of it) shall be as valid as if given to him under his own name.

8. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., Joseph Martin, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Peter Walker, Esq., of Worth, Sussex, William Withers, jun. Esq., of Holt, Norfolk, and William Palmer, Esq., of Bollitree, Herefordshire, be a Committee for deciding upon, and for carrying into execution all the measures necessary for effecting the several purposes above-mentioned, and that their order, or that of any three of them, shall be to the Treasurer his sufficient warrant for disposing of any sums of money, that he may receive on account of the said subscription.

The Committee hereby authorize the following gentlemen to collect subscriptions for the above purpose.

Mr. WILLIAM PALMER, (one of the Committee) Bollitree Castle, Herefordshire.

Mr. WILLIAM BUDD, clerk of the Peace, Newbury, Berks.

Mr. THOMAS SMITH, bookseller, Liverpool.

Mr. C. M. RILEY, Westgate, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Mr. RICHARD ILES and Messrs. J. and S. VINES, Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Mr. JOHN FORSTER, Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

Mr. W. P. SHIRLEY, Sutton-Valence, Kent.

Mr. WM. BIRCHINALL, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Mr. FREDERICK JONES, Bristol.

Mr. BESLEY, News-Office, Exeter.

Mr. JOHN WOOD, Wettersham, Kent.

Mr. JOHN DRAKARD, News-Office, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

**Mr. GEO. WRIGHT**, bookseller,  
back of the Inns, Norwich.

**Mr. JAMES BARLING**, Fisherton,  
Salisbury.

**Mr. WILLIAM FLOWER**, Straw-  
hat Manufacturer, Eastbourne,  
Sussex.

**Mr. C. W. HAYWARD**, Queen-  
street, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

**Mr. WROE**, Bookseller, Man-  
chester.

**Mr. MANN**, Bookseller, Leeds.

**Mr. JOSEPH RUSSELL**, Moore-  
street, Birmingham.

**Mr. GOODERE**, Register-Office,  
No. 24, George-street, Brighton.

**Mr. DALE**, Register-Office, Win-  
chester.

**Mr. COSENS**, Bookseller, Bristol.

**Mr. HICKLING**, Bookseller, Co-  
ventry.

**Mr. SAMUEL CLARKE**, East-street,  
Havant, Hants.

**ABEL HALLOWELL**, Manchester-  
street, Huddersfield.

**DOCTOR MINOCH**, Hurst, near  
Twyford, Berks.

**Mr. J. JACKSON**, Hull.

**Mr. STAUNTON**, Morning Regis-  
ter Office, Dublin.

Gentlemen in the country, who are willing to take upon themselves the trouble of collecting, are requested to send their names and addresses, to Sir T. Beevor, or to Mr. Cobbett, 183, Fleet Street; and they will be so good as to provide themselves with stamped receipts, agreeably to the Resolutions. The cost of these they can, of course, deduct from the subscriptions they may receive.

THE Committee for managing the Subscription for procuring **Mr. COBBETT's** return to serve in parliament will meet at No. 183, Fleet-street, on the first day of every Month, between the hours

of ten and two, for the purpose of transacting business connected with the object they have in view. The Committee, therefore, request that those Gentlemen who have been appointed to receive Subscriptions, as well as those who may have undertaken to make Collections among their immediate neighbours, will transmit the amount of their respective Collections, three days before the time of Meeting, directed to the Treasurer at Fleet-street, at his own residence, Hayham, near Attleborough, Norfolk, or Mr. Geo. Wright, Printer, Norwich, post paid, (the expense of postage to be deducted, if thought necessary, from the sum so sent.) The Treasurer will attend in Fleet-street, during the day, to receive the Subscriptions of such Gentlemen in London, and its vicinity, as may prefer paying them to him in person. The receipt of the several Collections will be acknowledged in the Register of the week following.

6th April 1826.

THE Committee, met at FLEET-STREET this day, beg to acknowledge the receipt of Subscriptions from the following places; from Birmingham—by Mr. Joseph Russell.

Sutton—by Mr. W. P. Shirley.

Fairford—by Mr. Richard Hes.

Coventry—by Mr. Hickling.

Bungay—by Mr. Robert Childs.

Norwich and Norfolk—by Wm.

Withers, Esq., and Mr. Geo.

Wright.

Bristol—by Mr. F. Jones.

Stamford—by Mr. John Drakard.

Bury—by Mr. Cobbing.

Stowmarket—by Mr. Gudgeon.

THO. B. BEEVOR,  
Chairman.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending March 25.

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat .. 55	1		Rye..... 35	1	
Barley .. 30	5		Beans ... 34	2	
Oats .... 22	7		Pease ... 37	10	

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended March 25.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat .. 35,023		Rye .... 371	
Barley .. 24,522		Beans ... 4,576	
Oats ... 29,249		Pease ... 1,034	

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, March 25.

	Qrs.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat... 5,440 for 15,619	18	10	Average, 57	5	
Barley... 4,268 .. 7,071	7	4	..... 32	11	
Oats... 10,193 .. 12,944	4	2	..... 25	4	
Rye.... 42 .. 65	4	9	..... 31	0	
Beans... 1,459 .... 2,594	3	7	..... 35	6	
Pease .. 622 .... 1,178	4	1	..... 37	10	

Friday, March 31.—The arrivals of all descriptions of Grain to this day's market are exceedingly limited. Wheat of fine quality is rather dearer, and there is a little more trade for inferior parcels, at Monday's rates. Barley, Beans, Pease, and Oats, are becoming scarce, and therefore an advance in price may be anticipated. In other Grain there is no alteration.

Monday, April 3. — During the chief part of last week the supplies were small, but towards the close they accumulated considerably, so that the quantities of most kinds of Grain were good; and of Oats they were large, having many vessels from Ireland. This morning there are fair quantities of Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, fresh in from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, and several more ships from the North, chiefly laden with Oats.

The Factors demanded great advances on the prices of Wheat this morning, with which our Millers would not comply, and the trade therefore became dull, at 1s. per qr. advance on the superfine samples since this day se'nnight, which is no improvement on the terms of Friday last, and the trade has closed heavily.

Barley for Malting may be reported 1s. per quarter higher, but in other sorts no alteration. Dry Beans are 1s. per qr. dearer, but damp samples are nearly unsaleable. Peas, of both kinds, remain as last quoted. The supply of Oats is large; but as most of our buyers appear disposed to increase their stocks, this article has obtained an advance of 1s. per qr. on the prices of this day se'nnight, but this trade has also closed rather heavily, as the weather is remarkably fine. In Flour no alteration.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack .....	53s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	48s. — 50s.
— North Country ..	42s. — 46s.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10	to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 15	—	3 0
Chats.....	2 10	—	0 0
Common Red..	0 0	—	0 0
Onions, 9s. 0d.—	0s. 0d.	per bush.	

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 0	to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 10	—	3 0
Chats.....	1 15	—	2 5
Common Red..	0 0	—	0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....65s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 40s.

Clover.. 90s. to 110s.

Whitechapel.—Hay....65s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 40s.

Clover..84s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

*The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.*

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.
Aylesbury .....	56	66	0	32	36	0	26	30	0	36	42	0	52	53	0
Banbury .....	64	68	0	34	37	6	23	29	0	42	48	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke .....	52	58	0	30	35	0	24	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	54	58	0	28	0	0	22	26	0	48	0	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	52	70	0	32	36	0	24	32	0	32	35	0	36	38	0
Derby.....	67	70	0	28	88	0	23	28	0	32	44	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	50	66	0	30	38	0	23	32	0	44	54	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	48	64	0	26	30	0	23	28	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	60	68	0	36	40	0	22	26	0	28	32	0	0	0	0
Eye.....	56	66	0	30	34	0	24	28	0	34	38	0	36	40	0
Guildford.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henley.....	64	75	0	28	39	0	24	32	0	45	53	0	46	52	0
Horncastle.....	58	64	0	30	34	0	20	24	0	30	36	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	52	70	0	24	33	0	20	30	0	41	56	0	0	0	0
Lewes.....	52	64	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbury.....	52	77	0	28	35	0	22	32	0	40	50	0	42	50	0
Northampton.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nottingham....	62	0	0	36	0	0	26	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0
Reading.....	58	74	0	28	39	0	20	30	0	44	49	0	43	48	0
Stamford.....	50	64	0	27	34	6	20	26	0	38	40	0	0	0	0
Stowmarket....	52	66	0	26	34	0	24	28	0	32	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea.....	62	0	0	36	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro.....	61	0	0	32	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warminster.....	52	66	0	28	39	0	20	27	0	40	52	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*.....	21	33	0	20	25	0	18	23	6	18	21	0	18	21	0
Haddington*....	27	34	6	23	29	0	16	24	0	16	20	0	16	21	0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

**Liverpool, March 28.**—The supplies of Grain since last Tuesday have been very small, owing to unfavourable winds, but from a continued steady demand for Wheat and Oats, the imports of the preceding week were chiefly taken off at prices last noted during the *past* week. The market of this day was only thinly attended, and there was but a poor display of samples of each description of Grain. In the limited sales effected, an improvement may be noted on Wheat, of 2*d.* to 3*d.* per 70 lbs.; on Oats, 1*d.* per 45 lbs.; and Beans, Malt, and Malting Barley, were each 1*s.* per quarter dearer.

Imported into Liverpool from the 21st to 27th March, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 1,540; Barley, 1,502; Oats, 4,538; Malt, 183; and Beans, 61 quarters. Flour, 237 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 129 packs, per 240 lbs.

**Norwich, April 1.**—The supply of Wheat and Barley to-day was liberal, and the prices for the former 8*s.* or 4*s.* per qr. higher, and 1*s.* to 2*s.* for the latter. Red Wheat sold from 54*s.* to 64*s.*; White, to 86*s.*; Barley, from 23*s.* to 33*s.*; Oats, 22*s.* to 25*s.*; Beans, 33*s.* to 36*s.*; Pease, 34*s.* to 38*s.* per qr.; and Flour, 44*s.* to 45*s.* per sack.

**Bristol, April 1.**—The sales of most kinds of Grain at this place are more brisk than they have been for some weeks past. The following prices are now obtained:—Wheat, from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 9*d.*; Barley, 3*s.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*; Oats, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 3*d.*; Beans, 3*s.* 3*d.* to 6*s.*; and Malt, 5*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 3*d.* per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 30*s.* to 45*s.* per bag.

**Ipswich, April 1.**—Our market to-day was well supplied with Barley and Wheat, but with few Beans. Prices were full 1*s.* to 2*s.* per qr. higher generally, as follow:—Wheat, 56*s.* to 65*s.*; Barley, 30*s.* to 38*s.*; Beans, 36*s.* to 38*s.*; and Pease, 36*s.* to 38*s.* per quarter.

**Wisbech, April 1.**—The supply of Wheat to-day is large, which, with Beans, made an advance of 2*s.* per quarter. Oats remain as before.—Red Wheat, 54*s.* to 60*s.*; White ditto, 60*s.* to 62*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 24*s.*; and Beans, 36*s.* to 38*s.* per imperial qr.

**Wakefield, March 31.**—We have had a better supply of Wheat at this day's market than for some time past; but as the Millers are very bare of stock, all the best samples met a ready sale upon much the same terms as on this day se'nnight. The Barley trade has not been so brisk as last week, but nearly as good prices have been realized for the finest samples. Oats are free sale, at 13*d.* to 13½*d.* per stone for mealing sorts, but fine qualities, fit for seed, are in great request. Beans sell readily, at last week's prices, and Malt is held at an advance of 1*s.* to 2*s.* per load. Shel-ling is scarce, and continues to improve in value.

**Malton, April 1.**—Our Corn market for all sorts of Grain continues nearly the same as it has for two or three weeks past.

**Manchester, April 1.**—The supply of all kinds of Grain into Liverpool is small, and from the inland districts we have scarcely a sample offering. There has been a trifling improvement during the week, but to-day little business has been done.

**Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 1.**—We had a good supply of Wheat from the farmers this morning, but having very little coastwise, the whole was readily sold at last week's prices. Fine Rye continues in demand. Norfolk malting Barley is saleable, at 1*s.* per qr. advance, but there is nothing doing in other sorts, except for grinding purposes, at 23*s.* to 25*s.* per quarter. A sale by auction of Barley under lock, and another of free foreign malting Barley are advertised for next week. Malt dull sale. We had a large supply of Oats, and last week's prices were barely maintained. The weather has been very cold all this week, the thermometer seldom standing higher than 37 in the shade.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, April 1.—The supply of fat Cattle at market this day was very large, and the sale for them quite flat; prices 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; it was also plentifully supplied with Store Stock, some of the Scots were of good quality, and full 4s. per stone, when fat, was obtained for the best of them. A few Devons shewn, and remained unsold: not a single lot of Short-Horns: Home-breds, of one and two years old, with Cows and Calves, a very flat sale.

*Horncastle*, April 1.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

*Manchester*, March 29.—The supply of Cattle to this day's market was pretty fair, but the demand limited; and Beef sold heavily at nearly the last week's prices, and many remained unsold. In Sheep, the number was rather short, and the demand fully equal to the supply.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, there was a great supply of Cattle, which met with dull sale, at last week's prices, and part were left unsold; there being a short supply of Sheep, they sold readily, at an advance in price.—Beef, from 6s. to 6s. 9d.; and Mutton, 7s. to 8s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended March 25, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	58	0	32	9	25	0
Essex	58	9	31	7	25	4
Kent	57	8	32	10	24	3
Sussex	54	8	30	1	22	5
Suffolk	54	8	29	9	25	10
Cambridgeshire	50	1	29	1	19	8
Norfolk	52	0	27	0	24	1
Lincolnshire	53	2	26	8	18	6
Yorkshire	50	11	27	6	18	9
Durham	54	5	34	2	25	6
Northumberland	52	7	32	0	24	0
Cumberland	60	1	31	7	21	6
Westmoreland	63	2	37	0	24	2
Lancashire	61	9	39	11	25	10
Cheshire	58	7	37	0	23	1
Gloucestershire	59	11	35	10	24	1
Somersetshire	57	6	32	9	20	7
Monmouthshire	55	0	36	9	22	8
Devonshire	57	5	30	0	20	4
Cornwall	59	10	30	10	23	9
Dorsetshire	56	7	29	1	23	10
Hampshire	54	7	30	6	24	7
North Wales	62	2	35	6	18	0
South Wales	58	5	30	0	15	10

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.



"The time will come, when their whole system will shake to its foundation. Then, when their now-saucy faces shall be as long as my arm, when their knees will knock together and their teeth chatter in their heads. Then shall I, holding these predictions up under their noses, laugh them to scorn. They are now insolent oppressors, and nobody feels the weight of their scourge more than I do. But, the day of their degradation and of my triumph will come."—*Register, written in Long Island, 15th July, 1818.*

## FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON.

TO THE  
GOOD MEN OF BOLTON.

Kensington, 12th April, 1826.  
MY FRIENDS,

I HAVE seen, in the BOLTON CHRONICLE, an account of *y<sup>r</sup>*ir Feast of the Gridiron; and, surely, when we look back to your Petition of 1816, and also to the imprisonment of Mr. HAYES, merely for announcing to you that *I had arrived at Liverpool in good health*, none of my friends, in any part of the country, can have more just grounds for rejoicing than you. This, however, is only the beginning of our triumphs over

that fatal system, which has, at last, reduced thousands upon thousands so nearly to starvation, that even the vile wretches, who have supported the system and calumniated us, now tell us, that the poor, in the North, are, in some cases, eating *horse-flesh and draff*, which latter means the husks of the malt, after beer has been made from it. Other triumphs, and of a much more decided character are to come.

In the meanwhile, let us take care to put upon record an account of our present rejoicings; for, great are the advantages of *not forgetting*. The Register has been our book of record. Never was there so efficient a weapon against folly, imposture, and oppression. The "historian" of the Register era will hardly be able to *lie*, though he hold a bribe in both his hands, and have a bridle

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in his mouth. This was very well known to those, who thought that they had "*extinguished the torch for ever*," when they had made it so difficult to cause this "torch" to be seen by the people.

A very fair account of our Feast, in London, has been published in several of the newspapers; but, as the report given in the MORNING HERALD appears to me to be the fullest, I shall insert that, with a few trifling corrections, wondering that so very few are necessary. Let me, however, before I proceed to this insertion, make a remark or two on some circumstances attending this FEAST; and, particularly as to the *number of persons present*, and to Mr. CARLILE having been one of those persons, which last circumstance has become a matter of more importance, seeing that you, in holding this Feast, made him one of your *toasts*, without, I am very certain, your knowing any thing of his present proceedings.

With regard to the number of persons present at the Feast, there were, I believe, 250 tickets sold. The company consisted, probably, of more than 300; and, at any rate, the room would not have conveniently contained any more than there were. The price of the dinner ticket (12s. 6d.) was high; and, I requested, that, on no account, there should be any *advertisement* of the Feast, *except in the Register itself*; I being resolved to owe, in this particular case, nothing to any other part of the press. As far as we could judge, more than two-thirds of the company came from the country, some from more than two hundred miles' distance. Certainly

greater harmony, more unmixed satisfaction, never prevailed amongst any assemblage of men. It was observed by many, that they never before heard so many, such long-continued, such loud and such hearty peals of *laughter*. That was just what I wanted. It was an occasion for laughter, and our friends, who made the arrangements, very judiciously placed this scene of laughter and exultation (London Tavern) as near as possible to the house of the OLD LADY and to the hell of the Jews and Jobbers. When public dinners are to be *got up*, the usual way is, for a parcel of men to meet, to agree to *take each so many tickets*; then they call themselves STEWARDS; these Stewards dispose of the tickets amongst the friends that they can muster, and, very frequently, they *give them away*; in short, they go out to the "highways and hedges" and get the guests to come in. Did my friends resort to tricks like this? Never. The dinner was bespoken. The tickets were sold at the Tavern and at my shop. I bought my own ticket as other people did; no *solicitation* of any sort was employed. All were *real* volunteers, not volunteers like many that we have seen, from fear of injury or hope of reward.

Our *toasts* had something of real originality in them. We could toast *the King* in a manner that bespoke our sense, and not our folly, and that contained nothing of that fulsome adulation, which we invariably see in the commonplace trash of the day. Accordingly, very great was the effect even of these toasts, the very reading of which drew forth marks of approbation, which, I say it

without affectation, were far greater than the reader merited. In short, this Feast, the account of it remaining upon record, as it will, will be long remembered, as a sign of these critical, and most interesting times.

Now, I come to the second point, with regard to which I meant to offer you some remarks, namely, the presence of Mr. CARLILE at this meeting. The newspapers, every newspaper that made any mention of the meeting, seemed to lay particular stress upon this circumstance; a circumstance which I should have noticed, even if you had not given Mr. CARLILE as a *toast*, at your Feast of the Gridiron; but, seeing that you did it, it becomes absolutely necessary for me not to hold my tongue upon the subject.

You will recollect, my friends, that, from the first appearance of MALTHUS's odious work on population, very few months have passed without my expressing my disapprobation of that work, and my abhorrence of the unnatural and beastly result to produce which it had a tendency. Some of you will remember that I had not forgotten this abominable work while I was in a state of voluntary exile. From Long Island I addressed a letter to the hard-hearted author, and told him of the consequences to which his endeavours must ultimately lead. Suffer me to give a short history of the steps which have led to the odious and filthy result of which I am about to speak as connected with the conduct of Mr. CARLILE, who may pass for a disciple of Malthus and his followers, if he will; but who, I am resolved, shall not pass for a *disciple of mine*.

It is well known, that the misery of the labouring people has gone on rapidly increasing during the last thirty years. Somewhat more than twenty years ago, Malthus (*a parson of the Church of England*) wrote a book, the objects of which were; first, to cause it to be believed, that this misery of the common people had not arisen at all from the enormous taxation, and the beggaring effects of paper-money and funding, but from the fault of the people themselves *in breeding too fast!* Monstrous idea! An idea that never entered into the brains of mortal before. Monstrous as it was, however, it took the fancy of a great many of those who wished their rents not to be diminished by poor-rates!. And the work was patronised by them to an almost unbounded extent. Malthus proposed, as a remedy, that any persons who *married* after the passing of an act which he proposed to be passed, should *never after receive parochial relief*, but be left to suffer from hunger and cold; that *all children*, the fruit of such marriages, should also be excluded from parochial relief; and (I pray you mark this well) that all *illegitimate* children, born after the passing of this act, should also be excluded from parochial relief!

This was his remedy; and he talked in a sort of blind and indistinct manner of *checking* population by what he called "*moral restraints*." Now, you will please to observe that the word *moral* does not mean that the *restraint* should have any thing to do with what we call *morality*; that is to say, it does not necessarily mean that. It means a restraint pro-

ceeding from reason and reflection; that is to say, that people ought to restrain themselves from marrying and having children, until they were quite certain of having the means to subsist them through life, without the aid of charity or of the parish.

The absurdity of this doctrine I have shewn upon many occasions, and shall not repeat my arguments here. Absurd as it was, however, it soon found numerous disciples, particularly amongst those who had to pay the poor-rates; and who wished to have the rents without any participation by those, whose labour alone made the land worth any thing at all. "*Surplus population*" became, as the French used to call it, "*the order of the day*." No small part of the land-owners, and the whole of the tax-eaters, ascribed the misery of the labourers to the breeding of their wives. All were for reducing the amount of the poor-rates; and to hear many of the babblers in Parliament, who would not have thought that the labouring classes of the people had set to work to breed children for the purpose of devouring the rents and disabling the landlords to pay their funded and unfunded debt?

"*Surplus population: a check to population*!" These were continually in the mouths of those who were devouring the fruits of the labour of the people; who were swallowing between fifty and sixty millions a year in taxes, and as much more drawn away by the jugglery of paper-money. Malthus talked about "*moral restraint*." He did not proceed so far as to point out the precise nature of this restraint; he did not tell you precisely how men and women were

to live, and children were to be prevented from being born; but he laid down the principle, and he proposed a punishment for what he called the indiscreet breeders of children! He very unequivocally stated that there was a natural tendency in man, in common with other animals, to multiply beyond the means of sustenance which the earth produces; and that, therefore, there must be checks to breeding. He left the matter thus; and, when he was applauded; when the walls of the Parliament House rang with that applause; when every babbler who talked about "*surplus population*" was encouraged and applauded; was it not natural, that, at last, some one would be found, base and indecent enough to point out the mechanical means to be made use of by women to put a stop to, or a check upon, that evil, as it was called, the surplus breeding of children? In the Reports of the Agricultural Committee of 1821, we find that almost all the witnesses have put to them, and the Committee, questions of this sort: "Do you find that early marriages amongst the labourers are a great cause of the increase of Poor-rates?" The committee, moved for by LORD JOHN RUSSEL, and of which he was chairman, in 1824, repeatedly put this same question. The Members, in the House itself, for years, harped upon the evil of early marriages amongst the common people; and, at last, LAWYER SCARLETT actually brought in a Bill, one of the objects of which was to prevent "*indiscreet marriages*" amongst the labouring class. This Bill, which was assailed by me the moment it made its appear-

ance, was finally rejected ; but it shewed to what lengths the notions of men had been carried with regard to this doctrine of "*surplus population.*"

Amidst all this, and amidst something rather more than *broad hints*, contained in the writings of the Scotch feelosophers, not excepting the *Encyclopædia Britannica* ; amidst all this, it is not so very surprising that a monster should at last be found in the shape of man, to recommend to the wives and daughters of the labouring classes *the means of putting Malthus's principle in practice* ; that is to say, should recommend to them the means of living in a state of marriage, should even recommend to them to indulge themselves to the utmost extent without being married, should recommend to them the horrible means of thus living and thus indulging, without the "*inconveniences,*" as the monster calls it, of being mothers ! Monstrous as this is, diabolical as the wretch must be, loathsome and disgusting as it must be, there was a wretch found to put such instructions upon paper, and to cause them to be widely circulated amongst the manufacturers of the North ! I have once or twice spoken of this horrible production. I now find that there were *three* separate productions of this sort, all proceeding from the same source. They appeared in the shape of *handbills*, without any printer's name. The villanous author being afraid of the consequences of tracing them to him. At last, however, a man is found to put his name to a publication, containing not only these three handbills, but great additions to them, strongly incul-

cating the use of the means ; openly and avowedly teaching young women to be prostitutes before they are married, and in a way *so as not to prevent their future marriage*, to which publication is prefixed, most appropriately, the figures of a man and woman in a state of *perfect nakedness*, the instructions being conveyed in terms so filthy, so disgusting, so beastly, as to shock the mind of even the lowdest of men and women. There has been a man found to do even this ; thus to follow up the principle of Malthus, improved by the Scotch feelosophers ; a man has been found to exhibit this abominable work, in open day, in a shop window in London ; and this man is that very RICHARD CARLILE, who, the newspapers say, was at our Feast of the Gridiron, and whom you toasted at your's.

Now, my friends, I sincerely believe that this man is only an *instrument* in the hands of others. He says, in this abominable publication, that he was three years before he could bring his mind to be thus instrumental ; that for one year he was afraid of thinking of the matter ; that it is not his plan ; that it was not sought after by him ; that it was submitted to his consideration by others. Who those others are, I shall, perhaps, hereafter have to state ; but I have thought it my duty to give you this warning, to endeavour to guard your daughters against these most diabolical precepts ; and, at any rate, to call upon you to recall your toast to RICHARD CARLILE, or to receive my disclaimer of the toasts which you were kind enough to give in behalf of me and those who belong to me.

I hope, and I believe, that you

never can have heard of this detestable publication. I can easily believe this; for, I assure you, upon my honour, that I never so much as heard of it until Saturday last, two days after the Feast of the Gridiron, when I was told of it by a gentleman, who is a very sincere friend of mine, and who had read in the newspapers, an account of CARLILE having been at the dinner, at which he expressed his regret. Hence arose a description of the work given to me by this gentleman. If I had known of the work on the day of the dinner, I would have spoken of it to the Gentlemen present as I have now spoken of it to you, and I would have concluded by declaring that he should instantly quit the room, or that I would; for however humble an instrument he may be in so diabolical a work, the bare sitting with him in the same room I should have deemed an act of infamy; and, gentlemen, let me tell you plainly, that I disclaim your toasts, I reject your friendship, I scorn your applause, unless, having this information given, you *publicly retract your toast of Richard Carlile*.

To my utter astonishment, I find that this abominable publication has been suffered quietly to proceed for the space of about *six months*. Let it proceed; let those who approve of it tolerate and encourage it; let the applauders of Malthus, whom Carlile quotes as one of his *authorities*; let all those who impute the sufferings of the people to "*surplus-population*;" let these enemies of reform and patrons of taxation and paper-money; let these toast **RICHARD CARLILE**;

let them claim him as theirs; I hope he will be none of yours, and I am resolved that he shall be none of mine. I am resolved that these enemies of the people shall not fasten upon me the instruments which they employ for the carrying on of their work. I contend, and I have always contended, that it is the taxes and the paper-money that cause the sufferings of the working people. In every work of my writing have I introduced this opinion. The consumers of taxes, the fatteners upon paper-money; these devourers of the fruit of the people's labour, cannot deny the existence of misery amongst the labouring people; but they endeavour to cause it to be believed, that the misery arises from the labouring people having too many children, and in the promulgation of this unnatural, this monstrous doctrine, Richard Carlile is their impious instrument. Let, therefore, the eaters of taxes and the fatteners upon paper-money, *take him to themselves*; he belongs to them and to them exclusively; by them, again I say, let him be cherished and supported; again I say, that I hope you will not own him as belonging to you, and I repeat my resolution that he shall be known not to belong to me. Curious it is, and worthy of pointed attention: that this CARLILE, who has just been released from a prison, to which he was sentenced partly on account of alleged *sedition and blasphemy*, should now, for six months, have been openly publishing the most obscene, the most beastly book, a book openly, and in so many words, advising young girls to prostitute their persons before

marriage, and pointing out in terms the most filthy, the means by which they may do it *without the danger of being mothers*; it is curious, that this man should now have *done this quietly for six months*; but, it is still more worthy of remark, that, in this work, **HE QUOTES MALTHUS** (a parson of the Church established by law) as one of his **AUTHORITIES** for what he is doing!

I have heard (for I never even saw him that I know of), that **CARLILE** is nearly a madman. But, those who have set him to work are not mad. Those who have been at the expense of circulating hundreds of thousands of the "check-population" hand-bills, are not mad. Those, who were *three years* at work upon him to get him to do this thing, are not mad. *Who* these his advisers and supporters are we shall, I dare say, find out at last. He is a tool, a poor, half-mad tool, of the *enemies of reform*. He wants no reform, for the end of his abominable book, is, to shew, that the sufferings of the people *do not arise from the want of reform*; but from the "*indiscreet breeding*" of the women! And yet, you toast him, and that, too, on an occasion like this!

I shall now insert, the account of our Festival, as I find that account in the *Morning Herald* newspaper, with the trifling corrections that I have mentioned above; and, in the hope that you will agree with me with regard to what I have already said in the above paragraphs, I conclude with subscribing myself

Your faithful friend and  
most obedient Servant,  
**W. M. COBBETT.**

## FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON.

Yesterday, the Feast of the Gridiron was held at the London Tavern. About two hundred and fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner.

Mr. COBBETT took the chair shortly after five o'clock, amidst great applause, Sir T. Beevor being on his right hand, and his three sons in front of the chair.

The following placard was posted in the room:—

### PEEL'S BILL.

"This Bill was grounded on concurrent Reports of both Houses; it was passed by unanimous votes of both Houses; it was, at the close of the Session, a subject of high eulogium in the Speaker's Speech to the Regent, and in the Regent's Speech to the two Houses: now, then, I, William Cobbett, assert, that, to carry this Bill into effect is impossible; and I say, that, if this Bill be carried into full effect, I will give Castle-reagh leave to lay me on a Gridiron and broil me alive, while Sidmouth may stir the coals, and Canning stand by and laugh at my groans."

—Taken from Cobbett's Register, written at North Hempstead, Long Island, on the 24th of September, 1819, and published in England in November, 1819.

The Small-Note Bill, passed in 1822, partly repealed Peel's Bill, before the day for its going into full effect: and, in December, 1825, the one-pound notes of the Bank of England came out again. —So that here was the above prophecy completely fulfilled.

Mr. Carlile, of the Republican, attended. He wore an immense shirt collar, and instead of a cravat, had on a narrow velvet band, connected in front by a gold clasp. He preserved a silence during the evening.

Shortly after the cloth was removed, Mr. Trant, M. P., entered the room, ushered by the landlord. He made the circuit of the tables, evidently for the purpose of catching a sight of Mr. Cobbett, and quickly retired.



After dinner Mr. COBBETT got upon the table, and was received with loud and continued applause. He then addressed the Meeting as follows :—

Gentlemen,—It is impossible for me to proceed with the address I am about to make, till I have begged of you to accept of my best thanks for the kind manner in which you have received my invitation. Gentlemen, the question upon which we are met is somewhat out of the ordinary course, and therefore the mode of proceeding must be out of course also. In general, a proceeding of this sort commences by drinking the health of the person who intends to address the Meeting. That may be dispensed with on this occasion, because I am about to address you under very peculiar circumstances. Therefore, Gentlemen, I shall now proceed to the address. I shall, I am afraid, tire you before I have done.—(No, no.) I sincerely say that, and without affectation, because it is my wish, and it is my intention, to say a great deal more than, I am afraid, I can reasonably expect you to have the patience to hear.—(No, no.) Gentlemen, we are met to celebrate what has been long talked of, “The Feast of the *Gridiron*.” Before I have done, I shall endeavour to give a short history of the use, of the origin, and of the application of that word to politics; but, first of all, let me congratulate you all upon this occasion; let me rejoice with you; let me express my own joy particularly, that so many gentlemen are present to join with me in expressing exultation at what we now behold, in expressing exultation at the triumph of our principles, in expressing exultation at the triumph of reason, of truth, and of public spirit, over folly, falsehood and greedy selfishness. Gentlemen, such is the subject of our triumph. We have been accused beforehand of exulting at the distress and misery of our country. That sacred word country—so dear, and so justly dear to English-

men, in all times, has been made use of, of late, for very bad purposes. Every one calls his own cause, the cause of the country; every set of rooks that know themselves to be insolvent, and that issue rags for the purpose of cheating the community—every band of robbers of that description call themselves “the country;” others call themselves “the country” who advocated what took place at Manchester in 1819. Even they call themselves “the country.” The Cotton Lords call themselves “the country;” the Jews and Jobbers call themselves “the country.” In short, attack any thing, however wicked, however atrocious, however base beyond description, and the parties concerned in that thing, the parties interested in it, call themselves “the country.” You attack the country if you attack them. Gentlemen, are the makers of paper-money any more our country—are these “rooks” any more our country, than the rooks in a pea-field are the *farm*? Is a gamekeeper, when his heart leaps with joy at having a pole-cat in his trap, to be accused of exulting at the distresses of the *manor*? I am sure you will agree with me that a pole-cat is as much the manor, and the rooks in a pea-field as much the farm, as these venders of paper-money are that of Old England, which was once so happy, and that now has been rendered so miserable, by these rooks and their practices.—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, we rejoice at the distress of nobody; we exult at the distress of nobody; we lament very much indeed the sufferings of those classes of the community who had it not in their power, from their situation in life, from the state of their knowledge, to be aware of the nature of that horrid system of which they have been the victims. We all of us regret that most deeply; we regret the fate of the farmers and tradesmen, who have, unjustly, been ruined by the paper-money. We regret that many an innocent man and his fa-

mily has been brought to ruin, not knowing the nature of the thing that produced the ruin; we regret the failure and the fate of those persons; but, Gentlemen, far be it from me to express regret for those bands of robbers who have caused this ruin to the country, or for any persons connected with them, particularly if they belong to those who have so often rejoiced in the injuries done to the people—the injuries done to public liberty. If we are called upon to be so extremely compassionate on this occasion; if we are called upon not to indulge in exultation even at the triumph of our own principles, though those principles be so just; if we are called upon for that, have we not a right to ask how the sons and daughters of corruption conducted themselves, when they saw what they thought was a triumph over the liberties of their country? Have we not a right to remember their day of rejoicing? Their conduct at the termination of the war, when they thought the victory had been obtained, not over the enemies of England, but over the liberties of England: (Loud applause.) With what insolence they taunted us with the success of their allies? The success of that cause which has now produced their own ruin (we are not to forget that), and yet they now say you must not triumph, you must not exult, you must not meet together and exult at the success of your principles, and the verifications of your prophecies, lest it should be interpreted into an exultation at our distresses occasioned by ourselves. If the evil had been one which was beyond human control or prevention; if it were a thing that nothing could prevent; if no human means could have any weight in preventing the approach of the evil; or if it be to be prevented by human means, and if I say nothing to prevent it, then, when the evil comes, it is very unjust in me to rejoice; and I ought to restrain my exultation, even at the fulfilment of my own predictions; but when the contrary of all

this is the case, when the evil might have been prevented by human means; when there were not only sufficient means to prevent it, but those means were pointed out, and clearly pointed out, long before the evil approached; and when, in addition to all this, those who pointed it out were calumniated, reproached, scorned, injured in all manner of ways that can be expressed; hunted out of society, where it was possible; pretty nearly ruined in some cases, and quite ruined in others; and that too, only because they predicted the evil would come, and pointed out the means of prevention—when that is the case (and that is our case) shall it be said we are to be so over delicate on this occasion, that we are to shed tears of compassion, and utter sighs, and be silent?—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I am not made of that metal, and I trust that you are not either. (Applause.) The time is come that our predictions are fulfilled. We have the right in any way, and we have the power to do it,—to express our exultation that our principles have been recognised by events however disastrous, since we did all in our power to prevent the coming of those events. Gentlemen, after this, I shall proceed, to the best of my ability, to state to you the evils of this cursed system of paper-money—to shew you how it produces poverty,—to shew you that poverty (as indeed we all know) produces crime; and to shew, by the history of the Acts of Parliament, which I will take, if you please, to be necessary, (and the more necessary the worse it is for the character of the system) how the paper-money has at last produced nearly as much slavery in England as exists in any other country on the face of the earth. Gentlemen, in the first place, upon the bare look at the thing, we all must know, that what is got by the paper-money makers, must be lost by somebody; somebody must lose what they get. By the note I took the other day to Gurney's bank at

Norwich, the issuers of it cleared (provided it was out all the time) *4l. 13s. 2d.*; and if every *10l.* note was to clear as much as that, what a loss is there? Somebody must pay that. Would it not be better, therefore, for us to trust to the coin made by the King, the coin which lasts for ages,—the coin which I allow to be bought, in the first place by the community, but still a coin that is made only by the Government—which circulates every where, is of the same value every where, costs nothing more, and does not wear out: in short, history shews; that from the time of the paper-money the mass of the people has been growing poorer and poorer, till at last they have been reduced to a state of misery such as never was known in England, nor any country on the earth that I have been able to discover, except poor Ireland itself.—(Loud applause.) We were only yesterday told by Sir Robert Peel, that it is a *family concern*, that all the taxes, the loans, and all the money got by bank paper is a family concern—that we pay it *by ourselves to ourselves*—(laughter); and that when the tax-gatherer comes to one of you for the tax he is *not taking it out of the family*. (Laughter.) He is only taking it to be *used for the good of the family*. That is Sir Robert Peel's idea. His words are these—"The loan becomes a debt due from ourselves to ourselves, and *resolves itself into a family account*."—(Laughter.) That is the general notion of all that part of the family that gets by it.—(Applause.) But the best possible illustration perhaps of the matter would be, to suppose that when the dinner was put on the table to-day, the waiters had taken all the dinner off *that table*, and put it on *the other*, and the same with regard to the wines; leaving only the nuts and bits of bread. This is just what is done by the *family account*! That is the manner of working of the system of paper money and the taxes. The very nature of their operation must neces-

sarily be to take from one part of the community and give it to another part; and it unhappily happens, that they take from that part which does the work, and give it to that part which does no work at all. It takes from the industrious tradesman, from the frugal man who is saving every thing he can that his family may not want; the taxes and paper money take from him, and give to somebody who does not work at all, but squanders the money away. That is the family system. That is the way this system of paper money has worked from the time it was first established till the present hour; but more particularly of late, when its operation has become 10, 20, or 40 times what it was at any other period. But we are told that the people are not so poor as you imagine; they are not worse off than they were formerly. The first proof to the contrary is this:—In Berkshire, in 1790, a certain rate of allowance was fixed on by the Magistrates for the labouring men out of any other employment, but that found by the parish. Gentlemen, there is an allowance granted in Berkshire by the Magistrates now, men in the same situation, and that allowance which these Magistrates have fixed now, is *just half what it was in the year 1790*. Therefore in 35 years, 36 at most, the people of this country have got poorer by one half, more miserable by one half, than they were at the beginning of that period. Gentlemen, Berkshire is a singularly humane county, the Magistrates are more gentle there perhaps, and more humane than in any other county in England, and yet such is the case there. I could instance other counties in which the poor are much more hardly off. In the same county, the allowance to the felon in the jail is greater than that to the parish-labourer out of jail! What think you of this, when you recollect that the fate of our country, its honour, its independence, the happiness of ourselves and our children, depend on the fate of the labouring people.—

(Loud applause). They who are so numerous, and so well entitled to all our best feelings, if they be reduced to such penury as to be better off in prison than working in the fields, what safety is there for any tradesman, or any farmer's property? what safety, finally, is there to be for the landlord's estate; the poor cannot be deterred by whipping, treadmills, or any thing they can inflict by way of punishment. Gentlemen, I wish to speak with great correctness upon this occasion. I wish to speak in a manner that no one can contradict. Another striking proof of this wretched poverty is the declaration of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench. Last year a complaint was made against the same Magistrates of Northallerton, in Yorkshire, for having allowed nothing but bread and water to a person who was confined on suspicion, and before he was brought to trial. It was said by those who made the complaint, that a man was presumed to be innocent till he was found guilty, that that was the principle of our law, and that it was very hard that a man should be sentenced to bread and water, gaol allowance, until he had been tried and found guilty; and so it was very hard, Gentlemen. The Judges answered, and they answered with great truth, or at least they put the question, which amounted to a declaration—*whether bread and water was not the common food of the labourers of England?* Their Lordships said that the man was as well fed as the commonalty of people out of gaol, and finally they refused the application which was made to them. But the thing for us to bear in mind is this:—that the four Judges of the Court of King's Bench, full of humanity and integrity, as I really believe them to be, and speaking truth, as I really believe them to have spoken, asked, sitting on the Bench, whether the common food of the labourers of England was not bread and water alone? (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, in the year 1821 there was a Committee of the House of

Commons, appointed to inquire into the state of agriculture. I don't believe the Hon. House meant to inquire into much, besides that which related to the payment or getting the payment of rents. (A laugh). Their chief object was to ascertain how rents were to be got while prices were low. In the course of their inquiries, some Member of the Committee asked a gentleman of the name of Hanning, then late Sheriff of Wiltshire, how the poor labourers lived in Wiltshire, and whether their state was changed from that of the former state? And now, Gentlemen, I will read to you what was said, in answer to that question; I choose to read it from the book, though it may occupy a little more of your time, rather than trust to my memory. The question was, "Has there been any change in the food of labourers?" The answer is, "Unquestionably. I see the labourers now almost wholly supplied with potatoes. Their breakfasts and dinners are brought to them in the fields, and they are *nothing but potatoes*." This, Gentlemen, was a Sheriff of the County of Wilts, the year before, a landholder and a great farmer. The next question is, "Were they in the habit, in better times, of consuming a certain quantity of animal food?" Answer—"Certainly—for instance, bacon and cheese, *which they do not now get*." Gentlemen, I read this because it is undeniable; it is one of themselves that states the fact, and for my part, I cannot think how an English gentleman could go in patience about his fields, and see his labourers live upon potatoes—breakfasts and dinners nothing but potatoes. How comfortable and warm they must have been! what nourishment for a poor fellow, who has to tramp eight miles a day, through heavy land, holding the plough besides! What a state he must go home in at night! This is the reason we see them such skeletons as they are, dressed in such rags as they are, more miser-

able than any people on the face of the whole earth, Ireland alone excepted. (Hear, hear.) Potatoes being the food, let us see what the drink is. Mr. Elman, a farmer in Sussex for 45 years, was examined by the Committee. They asked him, "When you first began business were your labourers in the daily habit of drinking beer?" His answer is—"Yes, always." They ask him, "Has that practice ceased altogether, or does it prevail in part now?" Answer—"It has ceased generally; when I first began farming in the parish where I now reside, there was not a single family in the parish that did not brew their own beer, and enjoy it by their own fire-side. Now none of them can do it unless I give them the malt." How often Mr. Elman gave them the malt I cannot say. (A laugh.) I am not supposing that he never did; but I dare say they were not a very great number to whom he gave the malt. Is it possible for us to look at this without being convinced there has been some great cause producing those evils in our country? England was formerly famed for being the country for good things. It was famed for its freedom—it was famed for its industry, its wool, its cloth; it was famed for many good things, but for nothing more than its good living. It was the country of good living. The saying used to be, "If you take an Englishman to fight, let his belly be full."—(A laugh.) Nothing can be greater praise than this. That is poor courage which proceeds from hunger. Such was the country. Such was the state of things not a great while ago. In old times, indeed, that state was still better than it has been for more than a century. An Act passed in the reign of Henry VIII. to regulate the price of meat in England. It was not to be sold for more than a certain sum. The Act enumerates the sorts of meat which the poor were accustomed to eat: it mentions pork, beef, mutton, and veal; and then, after enacting the

prices they should be at, it says, "these being the food of the poorer sort of people."—(Loud applause.) Gentlemen, ten thousand witnesses would not bring conviction to my mind on this subject, equal to that produced by these casual words, because it being so incidentally mentioned, it must have been true; it must have been the general practice of the country "for the poorer sort of people" to eat of these four sorts of meat. Gentlemen, at this very moment, whilst I am addressing you, there is not one man out of fifty who labours in agriculture, who tastes meat once in ten days, unless he gets it from some preserve or some warren. A Clergyman in Suffolk, describing the state of the people, says, "What they receive is barely sufficient to furnish them with food necessary for their existence; nothing is left for clothing, firing, rent, or any thing else." After that, the Clergyman proceeds to describe, as I will read to you by-and-by, the state of morality and honesty in which the common people of Suffolk were the year before last. It was in 1824 he gave his evidence. But, Gentlemen, if a man can be better fed in a gaol, better clothed he is certainly, than he can be by working in the fields; if the Magistrates of Berkshire allow a greater quantity of bread to a man in gaol as a felon, than to an honest man working for the parish on the road or elsewhere, who would be an honest man?—(A laugh.) Is it not impossible that there can be what is called morality and honesty in a country in such a state? It is poverty that begets the crime: poverty is the source of crime, and not, as some would have us believe, crime the source of poverty. How is it that we find less crime, that is to say, less larceny, among Lords and Members of Parliament?—(Applause and laughter.) I do not know that their principles of religion are any thing better than those of the common people. They have the same Church, the same Testament, and the same Bible,

but we never hear of their committing petty larceny; and we must find them committing larceny now and then, before I shall be made to believe that poverty does not cause crime. When a man, the other day, was prosecuted before the Justices of the Peace in Lancashire, for poaching, and was sentenced to seven years' transportation by those Magistrates, having, most likely, encroached on the game of some Magistrate; what did he do? Was he ashamed? No. He turned round and said, "So much the better, and now you may all go to h—l."—(A laugh.) It was not unreasonable for him to say so. If he had staid at home to work, he would, (according to what I have stated of Berkshire,) have got less provision than in gaol. Gentlemen, in 1821 or 1822, I will not be sure which, one or the other I am sure it was, Mr. Curwen, the Member for Carlisle, presented a petition from some persons in the North, where they are particularly honest, concluding, after stating their mode of life, after stating what they constantly underwent, how tired they were of leading such a miserable life, and being exposed to punishment so incessantly from attempts to satisfy their hunger; concluding, I say, with a prayer to the Honourable House, "that it would please, in its mercy, to order them to be transported for life!"—(Hear.) I must have been dreaming, or this was true. I could not dare to stand up before you in England, while the record of it is but two miles off, if it were not so. When, therefore, people petition to be transported, can you expect any thing else than immorality and crime? Accordingly the state of the labouring classes is what I will read to you from the evidence of a Rector, of some living in Suffolk, the Rev. Anthony Collett; he says, that in the generality of parishes from 40 to 50 labourers are loitering about during the day, engaged in idle games—(they may as well play as work for nothing), consuming their time in sleep, in

order that they may be more ready and active in the hour of darkness.—(Hear, hear.) Mr. Collett gives a reason for this, which is quite satisfactory to me. He says their weekly allowance cannot supply more than their food comes to. How, then, are clothing, firing, and rent, to be provided for? He answers this question thus:—"by robbery and plunder."—(Hear, hear.) This is the country, Gentlemen, where once a gaol was sufficient for three or four counties.—(Hear, hear.) This clergyman states, that the corn sold by sample in the market by the small farmers is of such qualities, that competent judges have assured him it must have been stolen from many different farms, and could not have been produced on their occupations. Disgraceful as these facts are, I could enumerate many similar instances, to prove the degree of misery to which the labouring population has been reduced. Mr. Collett says it is utterly impossible for any man in the world to provide a remedy to make them any better; they are absolutely incurable. That is given to a Committee of the House of Commons by a Clergyman of England—I have no doubt every word of it is true. But I cannot say I have no doubt of the truth of it, without blushing for my country, when I consider what my country formerly was; and without endeavouring myself, and calling on every man to assist in every way he is able, to restore the country to something like the happiness it formerly enjoyed. Gentlemen, what endeavours have been used by our Legislature to remedy this? When misery like this is proved to be in existence—when it is proved to exist in the degree I have described to you, what ought the Legislature to think of it?—What ought it to do to put an end to this? Ought it not to inquire into the cause of that poverty and misery, and then to set to work to render the poverty and misery less? When Mr. Ellman gave the evidence he did, is

there a man of you, if you had been of the Committee of the House of Commons—if you had been in the House when you heard the Report read—who would not have said, “What! all brewed their own beer 45 years ago, and none of them do it now!—Surely I must set to work and find out the cause, and do something to make them brew their own beer again.” Is not that the natural march of men’s minds? Is not that what any of you would have done? Gentlemen, I trust that if I had been one of this Committee, or one of those to whom the Report was made, I never should have slept an hour in quiet till I had done something to restore the people to that state in which they might be able to brew their own beer. Mr. Hanning told the Committee that formerly the labourers used to eat meat and cheese, and now they have not even bread, but potatoes alone. When they heard that and reflected, as they must have reflected, how miserable that life must have been, and how hard it must have been to the feelings of the men, how could they have had rest or peace till they had set about an inquiry into the means of restoring meat or cheese to the men? Nothing of this sort took place in consequence of the Report. The Report was delivered to the Parliament, long debates were held on the Report, but the whole turned on the Corn Bill, and whether rents were to be obtained or not. No man in the House ever laid a finger on the evidence of Mr. Ellman or Mr. Hanning. Was there no Member out of the 658—no Noble Lord out of the 500, could lay his finger on these passages and say, Shall we not set about something to make the people better off? Not one ever started the subject. Not one ever took notice of these parts of the Report, which were, in my view of the matter, the only parts that were of any importance. That being the case they must resort to something else. Being apparently resolved to do nothing to restore food, raiment, and

comfort—being convinced from experience that thieving kept on increasing with poverty, and being resolved not to do any thing to lessen the poverty, they have recourse to—what? New punishments, new penal laws, and in this course they keep till the gaols are too small, doubled and trebled as they are.—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, in the days of our fathers, and until very lately indeed, going into a man’s field, going across it, going about it, taking that sort of liberty with it was punished by nothing but an action of damages. The Common Law of England gives a mere action of damages for the trespass. A statute in the reign of William III. made a malicious trespass punishable by paying the costs of both parties, but before that the Law of England knew nothing of any sort of punishment, other than the action of damages; and then if you did not obtain 40s. damages, you paid your own costs. I agree that in the present state of things, no man’s property would be safe, with no other law than that of the common law of England; mark, it is the distress of the people—it is the misery of the people—that has occasioned the necessity of a change in the law. The same with regard to the law as to poaching—as to sporting. Why, formerly, when the first game law was passed, a man who had 15*l.* a-year of our money, in house or lands, might keep dogs and go sporting. Now he must have 100*l.* a-year of our money. He is also subject to the punishment of transportation, or death, in case of violent resistance with clubs or arms! We have seen gaols filled to the amount of 15,000 persons at a time, for the crime of poaching. We have also seen several men executed—hung up on the gallows, for being tempted, in the first place, by poverty and by hunger, to kill those wild animals which God granted as the common property of all. Men have been hung on the gallows, for going armed with certain weapons for de-

fence, and either killing or wounding, or attempting to kill or wound some of those who came to prevent them from killing those wild animals, and to cause themselves to be transported. We have seen many hung on the gallows for that. What I quarrel with, is not the severity of the law, for if you agree that the present state of things, and the present taxes, are to continue, then you must agree that these severities are necessary. At last they are pushed to such an extremity, that it has become a felony to rob an orchard. Gentlemen, this is a monstrous stride. There is hardly any one of us present, at least of my age, and who has been brought up in the country, who has not robbed as many orchards—(laughter) as he has fingers and toes. We have all done it. But we are become so much more moral in this moral age, that the boys now must not do such things.—When I was a boy we all did it, and that without any exception of rich or poor.—(Applause and laughter.)—Look at the system—look at the thing as it existed then, when I was a boy, or any of you of my age were boys. Look at the system—at the state of things that existed then, and what exists at this moment. For going into an orchard and taking away a pocket full of apples, or half a sack full, the punishment was paying the damage which you had done; that is to say, paying for the apples, paying for treading down the grass, or breaking down the hedge, or leaving the gate open, or letting the cattle in. That was the utmost. There was no more punishment than that, except in certain cases, where the party had no money to pay, and he was delivered over to the constable, to have such a whipping as his father would have given him. That was the law when those of my age were boys. But since the starvation-system, or paper-money-system, since “commercial greatness” has swollen us up—since we have had Sunday-schools, and education, and Bible-societies—(hear,

hear)—since vast improvements have been made—(hear, hear)—it has become necessary to hold rather a tighter hand, and the law has gone on hardening and hardening, in spite of Sir James Macintosh; and curious it is that Sir James Macintosh has been presenting petitions, for about fifteen or sixteen years, for softening the criminal code.—(Laughter.) Sir James Macintosh has spoken, probably, a speech two inches wide, and as long as from here to the end of the room on the necessity of softening the criminal code, in order to amend the morals of the people, and in order to make the laws of the country in consonance with the improvement of the age.—(Laughter.) Sir James Macintosh has succeeded to admiration as far as related to the crime of witchcraft. He has got some laws repealed which caused witches to be burnt. The poor old witches are perfectly safe at this moment, though the boys must take care how they enter an orchard.—While this great softener of the Criminal Code has been at work in favour of witches, shutting his eyes to all other matters, other law-makers have been hard at work: They have been making the laws harder and harder on every thing you can mention. There is nothing on which the law has not been made tighter, but particularly in this affair of gardens and orchards. And they have enacted at last that to take any thing out of a garden or orchard, without leave of the owner, whether the garden be fenced or unfenced, walled or unwalled, signifies not, is a felony. Judge, then, to what a pass we are come. And what is a felony? What are the consequences of felony? We all know that felons may be hanged; we all know they may be transported, and there are no bounds in this case, it is all in the discretion of the Court—it is felony, and no particular punishment is awarded. Among the consequences of felony are these, that all the goods and chattels found to be his property, are, the moment



the felon is convicted, the property of the King. He can make no will; for he has no property to give; he forfeits all his freehold lands for life, and for a year and a day after his death, during which time the King is entitled to them. That is the punishment which the mild, gentle, equitable, much boasted laws of England produce for the boy who enters and takes an apple out of the orchard.—(Hear.) Gentlemen, again I say that I do not quarrel with the severity of the law, if you insist that the Government shall uphold this system of paper-money and taxation, for without such, people will take what they can, wherever they can get it. In order to restrain them from doing it, comes the law, so dreadful that I shudder when I think it exists in that country, so famed for the mildness and justice of its laws. (Hear, hear.) Nevertheless, even the severity of the law is not sufficient to prevent offences. The offences go on increasing. Resort, therefore is had to the enlargement of the gaols. The gaols are augmented in size, auxiliary gaols are built, several in every county; there are those great improvements—penitentiaries, the treadmill, the hulks, every sort of vast improvement—every improvement or change that could possibly be thought of, has been introduced, in order to provide accommodation for this mass of criminals, and at last they find that all these accommodations are insufficient. A new scheme is therefore now to be resorted to, which has appeared before the public, and that is, the new Bill of Mr. Peel, that Minister of the Interior, of whom I will speak by and by; that great improver of our financial system, that great payer off of debts and causer of the diffusion of gold, instead of paying money has introduced a new Bill for improving the criminal law.—(Hear, hear.) It contains a provision for holding out rewards generally, to all persons, in every rank of life, in every part of

the country, but 'particularly' to necessitous persons, to be the accusers, the detectors, the apprehenders of criminals. Now, Gentlemen, in my view of the matter, nothing can be so abhorrent to every principle of the Law of England, and every thing be'onging to the rights of English men, as a law like that. There are at present three or four cases in which the law gives rewards to persons apprehending offenders. That has always been deemed dangerous by men best skilled in the laws, and loving most ardently the liberties of their country. What can be more dangerous than to set one man to be a spy upon another? But if this Bill be carried into effect every man or woman who assists in apprehending or detecting, or causing to be apprehended or detected, any person accused of any crime, or brought before a Court of Justice, is to have a reward, in the discretion of the Court; and that reward is to go to the wife, if the husband is dead, or to the children; and if there is neither wife nor children, to the father or mother. Gentlemen, figure to yourselves the situation of the country—imagine what must be its situation, when the law holds out an inducement to men to cause their neighbours to be convicted of crimes! But this also arises from what I before stated. It is impossible to make provision for the number of criminals—and this is intended to prevent the criminals being so numerous. By inducing persons to come forward, and be instrumental in detecting offenders, it is thought, to diminish the number of offenders and make more elbow-room in the gaols! It never seems to have entered into the head of Mr. Peel, that it would be best to go back to the cause of the crime—to go back and inquire what makes the people so poor, so immoral, and so much greater thieves than formerly, although this law itself tells us by clear implication, that we are so degraded, we are such a mass of criminals, that it is

necessary to offer rewards to some of us to bring others to justice. Gentlemen, how comes it such great gaols are necessary; how comes it this England never wanted these great gaols, penitentiaries, and mad-houses before? how comes it? It is essential to know, and I here take the liberty distinctly to state, presuming all of you may not know, that such a thing as a reward for the apprehension of a criminal, or for information against a criminal, was never known of in England, was held in abhorrence in England, till that cursed year in which the Bank of England was first established.—(Loud applause.) The Bank of England was established in the year 1695—that year saw the first law pass for rewarding an Englishman for being the apprehender of his neighbour. Nevertheless, I still repeat that it is absolutely necessary that even this should be; for if I were Minister to-morrow, and Parliament were to say, You must carry on this system of taxation—of paper money—this funding and taxing system—that you must do;—I should say, I will have nothing to do with it while you suffer the ancient laws of England to exist; dispense with these laws—give me the laws of Austria—give me some such laws as these—let me have robbing orchards to be felony, and let me have the power of paying one man to be the accuser of another—then I will carry on your system. And it is unreasonable to charge Ministers with these encroachments, if Ministers are to carry on this system of taxation.—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, we are accused of being revolutionists—of being designing men—(laughing)—men who want to overturn the ancient Constitution of the country, and all its ancient laws. Just the contrary. We want the ancient country and all its venerable laws. Look at this enterprising young statesman, Mr. Peel—this is a Gentleman elected by the University of Oxford—remarkable for his attach-

ment to sound principles of Government—remarkable for his attachment to the Constitution of the country—remarkable for his determination that he will have no encroachments on the Constitution. This very Mr. Peel is now going to repeal some of the ancient laws of England, as far as relates to criminal matter, from the reign of Edward the First down to the reign of George the Fourth. That, then, is your Revolutionist.—(Hear, hear.) What should we do any more, if we had our full swing?—(Laughter.) Could we go to work faster than that?—(Applause.) He begins in the 3d year of Edward the Third, with repealing a salutary law for not sending a person to prison for a pitiful offence. That law says, “No man shall be shut up in gaol, even if a Grand Jury find him guilty of a trifling offence;” so tender were the laws of our liberties. Mr. Peel begins with repealing that law. Burke says, the Constitution of England is to be found in the laws of England—in the whole body of the laws, and particularly the municipal laws. This comes, with a single sweep, and repeals a mass of the laws, from the 3d Edward the Third to George the Fourth; but he is not to be called a revolutionist, but a sound and constitutional politician. There is, however, an ancient law or usage, or set of laws and usages, which Ministers have not attempted or desired to tread upon—I mean the laws relating to rotten boroughs.—(Hear, hear.) To alter the Law of Orchards is conformable to the improvement of the age—to the enlightened state of the age; but, as to rotten boroughs, they must remain as they are. If we ask for alteration there, we are instantly termed innovators, who want to turn things topsyturvy. Gentlemen, such has been the progress and effects of paper-money, in the first place, produced poverty, such as the country never knew any thing of before. Of that poverty I have given you

several proofs. This has produced a mass of crimes such as never existed in point of number in any country but this. This poverty has made property of every description insecure, and yet no man proposes a scheme by which the evil may be removed. They go on adding punishment to punishment, new crime to new crime, new jail to new jail, but never think of removing the cause of the whole; and until the cause be removed, there never will be peace or happiness in England.—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I am afraid I have almost tired you.—(No, no; go on.) I intended before I sat down, to advert a little more in detail to the cause of our meeting here this day. You all remember that in 1819, the Parliament enacted they would certainly return to payments in gold and silver. In 1819, the Bill, you recollect, was brought in with all possible formality. They took, by their Committees and otherwise, five whole months to inquire into the necessity of it. I will shew you the result of their inquiries: it is a book, larger than the Testament. The Committee sat from February 1819, till June. Then a Report was made to the House, and, after due deliberation and long debates in both Houses, they passed the Bill; and when they had passed the Bill, they congratulated each other as heartily as I congratulate you to-day, and closed the whole by a declaration, on the part of the Minister, that now the question was *set at rest for ever*. They came to an unanimous vote, passed the Bill, which was the result of all the inquiries carried on by the Committee, and it is not amiss you should know the worthies consulted by this Committee. Among them were Samuel Thornton, an aged Bank Director; John Irving, one of the Bank Directors now; Mr. Gladstone, a most profound merchant of Liverpool; Daniel Ricardo, an oracle; Nathaniel Rothschild, who is more than an oracle; Isaac Lyon Goldsmidt, one of the children of Israel; Alexander

Baring, not exactly that; J. Smith, a wise man; and last, not least, Hudson Gurney; as cunning a gentleman as I happen to know of. These were the conjurers, who assisted the other conjurers with their advice. Here is an account of the advice they gave (holding up a large book.) The printing has cost I am sure 10,000*l.* or 15,000*l.*! Here is the result of the advice which these conjurers gave—this is the Report on which the Bill was brought in. Parliament did it with the greatest deliberation, and the greatest desire to give security and stability to the finances of the country. This Report reached me in Long Island, in two months after it was printed and issued by the House of Commons, and with it came the project of the Bill, soon afterwards the Bill itself: and, in about five months from the day that the Bill was passed; five months from the conclusion of the Herculean labours of these matchless statesmen—these shining patriots, who had spent so many hours by day and night, studying how they might do honour to the country—in about five months after that, while the public, and especially, the *loyal*, were exulting at the false predictions that the Bank would never pay in specie again; while they were exulting in the disappointment of those malignant persons; while the public in England were enjoying the prospect of returning to that healthy state of currency which existed in the time of our forefathers. Just at that time in dropped my words from across the sea, saying the Bill never can be carried into effect, and if it is I will give Castle-reagh and Sidsmouth leave to broil me upon one of the hottest of their gridirons, while Canning may stand by, if he likes, and stir the coals and laugh. (Here there was a loud burst of applause, most of the company standing up and waving their handkerchiefs.) Now, Gentlemen, have we not a right to rejoice? (Applause!) Have not all you a right to rejoice, who assisted to uphold an and enable me to

rejoice; for without friends it would have been impossible to endure that which I have endured on account of this great and just cause. —(Great applause.) We are all men who have had to withstand scorn, laughter, taunting, and injuries of a much more serious nature. I have known, I could say, hundreds of men, who have been kept in a state of depression, who have, in fact, been in a great part ruined, some of them absolutely, only because they contended that I was right. It is not in human nature not to rejoice under such circumstances. It is not in human nature to hold one's tongue—we should be base creatures, unworthy of any good fortune; it would be an affectation wholly unpardonable; we must be the grossest of hypocrites, if we did not on this occasion rejoice, and express our joy. Some may differ from me on other subjects, but if they agree on this great subject, are they not to join on this occasion? I wish no man to follow me through all my opinions; but on this subject there can be no difference of opinion. They committed the sin of Pcel's Bill in the face of warning. In 1818, Tierney recommended the House to pass such a Bill: I said, If you do pass such a Bill, such and such will be the consequence; you cannot carry it into effect. This was a year before they passed it. When it was passed, they chuckled and laughed in their sleeve, and alluded to me, as far as it was proper for such great men. Lord Liverpool alluded to me, saying, that persons who were quite illiterate, frequently wrote upon the subject. They thought, after they had been going on very capably for a year, O he is wrong! like a parcel of children, or an over-witted wife, who thinks herself wiser than her husband. "Frederick. Prosperity Robinson" came with his report—that unhappy, that melancholy report—saying, it is not us, it is Providence has done it all! Like Malvolio, who wondered how the devil his mistress could fall in

love with him, he was such an ugly beast: it is Providence who has done it, said he. Prosperity Robinson certainly had Malvolio in his eye when he made that speech. "Yes, yes," cries Mr. Robinson, "it is the Parliament that has done all. Then he continues, Where are the Reformers now? Before this there might have been some reason for the appearance of such persons. The circumstances of the country might have justified them in thinking that there was something wrong going on. But now what do they say? Let those persons look at the condition of the country now. Such was the language of Mr. Prosperity Robinson; and the contemptible, the bare-faced farce was carried on, even up to July last, when these Ministers had the audacity to put into the King's mouth such expressions, as that the prosperity of the country was established on a solid basis, and that it was increasing. Well, what happened after this? Need I relate it to you? The flood-gates were broken open, all gave way, and I am sure it is not necessary to detail to you what took place since that. The system went to pieces; it appeared like a wrecked vessel on the waters, with nothing but a hulk and jury-masts, and God only knew what destiny it would take; no—I do not—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I do not blame these Ministers; they have done the best, probably, they could. For my own part, I consider them unfit, not only to do the business of the nation, but even to undertake the concerns of their respective parishes. —(A laugh, and cheers.) What else can I say of men, who are continually going about from one thing to another, chopping and changing—saying to-day, that a poor man shall have it in his power to have a piece of gold, and to-morrow resisting a clause in a Bill which will enable the poor man to obtain gold under circumstances where he ought legally to obtain it? When I see all this contemptible veering about—this shilly-shally work—can I do

otherwise than express my opinion that they are unfit for the business which they have undertaken? Such, Gentlemen, is the state in which we stand at this moment.—Allow me to mention, that I have just heard that these Ministers have formed the determination not to extend the Small-Note Bill to Scotland. Gentlemen, all I can say is, that if they do not—if they carry the Bill in England, and do not include Scotland in the same measure, they will produce such confusion as we remember took place in New Jersey. But, Gentlemen, whatever we may say in other respects, there is one thing for which I thank these Ministers—I mean, for smiting down the rooks.—(Applause.) I will by and by take the liberty of proposing the health of these Ministers on that score alone. They deserve it, let me tell you, for they have done that for us which wiser men, perhaps, would not have given us.—(Cheers, and laughter.) For once, Gentlemen, their short-sightedness has done us some benefit; and, in that respect, what may we not expect from their future exertions?—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have detained you too long—(No, no); but, on such an occasion, I could not say less; less, at least, was not expected from me. Allow me then to thank you most sincerely for the honour you have done me by the way in which you have received me. I congratulate you, as I am sure there is no one present who is not here to congratulate me on this day. I thank you with all my heart. I hope and fervently pray that no man of you may ever suffer from the paper-system; and I hope and trust, that no one of you will ever have to regret, your having come here to-day to shew your friendship towards William Cobbett.—(The assembly rose, and applauded for several minutes whilst standing.)

After a pause, the Chairman proposed—

“THE KING, and may he once

more and exclusively exercise the prerogative of making money.”—(A laugh and cheers.)

Toast—“*The industrious and labouring people, and may their food and raiment cease to be taken from them by the juggling of the paper system.*”

“*The health of Sir T. Beevor,*” was then drunk with great applause.

Sir T. BEEVOR returned thanks.—He said that the only thing which had induced him to take a part in political affairs was, his anxious desire to promote the return to Parliament of the great political writer and great man, the triumph of whose principles they were that day met to celebrate. He had supported those principles at some sacrifice, for every relative he had in the world was opposed to them. He wished to allude to the subscription set on foot for the purpose of returning Mr. Cobbett to Parliament. He begged to say that it was going on steadily. There were now between one and two thousand pounds in actual cash in his hands. Besides this, there was a considerable sum promised—a sum which he could reckon—at least, the promise of it was as good as the promise of payment which was allowed to circulate through the country—the promises were far more valuable than those of the rooks.—(Cheers.) He was happy to say that his own county (Norfolk) was foremost in this subscription. Next to it was the Metropolis and the country fifty miles round. If every county in England behaved as well as, Norfolk, they would not only obtain one, but six seats in the next Parliament. There was a reason for this; and he attributed it to the circumstance of the great sale of the Register in the county of Norfolk; for he would venture to say, that one, at least, out of thirty, of the Registers, were disposed of in that county; and he owned he was proud of the circumstance. He concluded by proposing the health of the Chairman, with as many cheers as they thought fit.

The health was drunk with three times three, and great applause.

Mr. Cobbett said he thought he would be unjustifiable in detaining them a moment after their having extended so much indulgence to him already. He would therefore propose a toast, which he did as follows, amidst shouts of laughter—"Beef, mutton, pork, and veal, may they be again, as they formerly were, the food of the poorer sort of people in this kingdom."

Mr. Cobbett—Gentlemen, I should have followed up this last toast by another, which I shall now propose as a companion to it. The last one, allow me to say, was not of that intellectual character which suits this improved age—(Laughter and cheers); an age, be it observed, in which the gaols are so large, and the dinners so small—(Laughter.) The toast which I now give is of a more intellectual cast; it puts us more nearly on a level with the *worst* improvement of the time.—(A laugh.) Gentlemen, I give you—"Potatoes, and potatoes alone, may they become the diet of those who still uphold the paper-money."—(Laughter and cheers.)

The health of Lord Folkstone was then proposed and drunk with great applause.

He then proposed—"The Landlords of England; may they adopt measures to preserve their estates without resorting to a Corn Bill or a Bread Tax."

The health of Colonel Johnstone, M.P., was then proposed.

Mr. Wells (of Huntingdon) returned thanks in an able speech.

Mr. Cobbett—Gentlemen, it has been said and industriously propagated that I am an enemy to merchants and to commercial men in general. I am now going to propose their healths. We have been told that this country was not acquainted with commercial men till the time of Pitt. But, England had *merchants*, and honourable and wise merchants, and she had statesmen much too

sensible to babble about *free trade*.

These men acted on an uniform principle, according to which they never regarded as *gain* any thing by which the *rival* gained also. I remember, for instance, one law of Henry VI. which provided that if woollens were sent abroad, nothing but gold should come back; and if the French sent wines to us, nothing but woollens should go to them.—

(Cheers.) This is what I call free trade; this is a species of transaction in which both dealers cannot certainly be gainers. The only thing, on which I set any value, in Locke's writings, is a maxim of his, that the profit commerce of a nation does not consist in positive gain, but in making your neighbour lose.—(Applause.) Are we not, forsooth, to cry out against these men—against this pitiful race of statesmen, who hold out to us the notion that commerce may be so carried on as that all nations may gain? The thing is absurd. In former times the invariable policy of the country was not to carry on commercial intercourse with a country unless we could *exclusively* gain by it. We all know very well that principles of morality are not very much encouraged according as commerce is cultivated. We know very well, for instance, that in this very city of London large sums were amassed by persons, natives of the country, by selling powder and ball in the time of war to the national enemy. We all are prepared to admit that the tendency of commerce is to make men regardless of the ties of country. Then, Gentlemen, in commercial transactions between nations there can be no equality—no reciprocity of advantage. The more powerful will, and ought to have the advantage. The principle between nations is, and ever will be—might is right. The bragging of this age would make us believe, that there were no *merchants* in England in former times. Why, a considerable part of the monasteries in this kingdom were actually founded by

merchants; this was at least 400 years ago. I find, in looking to the records of such or such a monastery; "founded by such and such a one, merchant, of London." Judge you, then, is the merchant of London a character of yesterday? Let me say, then, I do not seek to injure the character, or destroy the reputation, of the merchant. I shall, then, if you please, propose to you, "*The Merchants of the kingdom, and may they, like the merchants of former times, be renowned for their abhorrence of gambling and trickery.*"—(Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the health of Mr. THOMAS SMITH, of Liverpool, the gentleman who undertook the charge of the *Registers*, in manuscript, which Mr. Cobbett sent over to this country, during his residence in Long Island."

The toast being drunk,

Mr. SMITH returned thanks. He claimed no praise for doing that which he believed thousands of his countrymen would have readily undertaken, had they been in his circumstances. But he had been always convinced of the mischief of the paper system. What else was it but the baneful paper system which had produced such an anomaly as this; Whilst this country was subscribing thousands of pounds for the starving poor of Ireland, the markets of Liverpool was overstocked with Irish provisions of all sorts.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, these Ministers of ours are not so much objects of admiration or gratitude; but when they have done a good deed, though even if it should be by mistake, yet we had better take the deed for the will, and give them credit so far. Gentlemen, we have a right to thank them in part—to stand by them to that extent—for we find that they are censured by our enemies for the very thing which we think they deserve approbation for doing. They have laid the axe to the root of the accursed paper system. Let me propose then the health—I don't mean precisely the health of

the Ministers—but let us thank them for having intended to put an end to the worthless rags.—Toast: "THE MINISTERS. Thanks to them for their intention to put an end to the worthless rags, which, worthless as they are, can cause famine in the midst of plenty."

The CHAIRMAN then proposed, "*the health of Mr. Jones of Bristol.*" (Applause.)

That Gentleman returned thanks briefly.

Mr. Wells then proposed "*the health of Mrs. Cobbett and family.*"

Mr. Cobbett returned thanks.

On his retiring, many of those present got about him, and eagerly sought to pay him some mark of respect.

## FRIENDS IN IRELAND.

THE following Letters will speak for themselves, and, therefore, there is no necessity of my making any remark upon the subject.

### TO WILLIAM COBBETT, ESQ.

*Register Office, Suffolk-street, Dublin,  
April 6, 1826.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I published the following notification in the *Morning Register* of the 8th of March:—

We have heard a wish expressed by many that a subscription should be opened in Dublin, for the purpose of aiding the effort to bring Mr. Cobbett into Parliament. We ourselves have a strong desire that this effort should be successful, and we shall be most happy to forward to the Committee in London, (with our own mite,) the contribution of any gentleman, whose feelings on the subject accord with our own.

I expect subscriptions from many persons, but as yet only one contribution has been placed in my hands. This contribution, however, is highly honourable to you and your cause, and when stating to you its amount,

and mentioning the name of the donor, I hope it will be considered that I take an excusable liberty in also making you acquainted with the sentiments, regarding the project of your friends, and your personal deserts, which were expressed in the letter that conveyed it to my custody:—

28th March, 1826.

DEAR SIR,

I have requested Mr. Hart to send you 20*l*. as my subscription towards the election of Mr. Cobbett.—The smallness of the sum is more proportioned to my means, and the misery I endeavour to alleviate amongst our neglected and ill-treated people, than to my wishes regarding a person whom I think the ablest advocate of liberty in his own country, and of fair play to mankind in general. To Mr. Cobbett, all friends of Economy and Reform are greatly indebted, and the Catholics of Ireland owe him more than to any other individual in existence, with the exception, perhaps, of the most excellent Earl of Fingall. For more than twenty years his writings have been to me a source of amusement, and instruction in agriculture, industry, and politics.

I am, dear Sir,

Your humble Servant,

CLONCURRY.

To M. Staunton, Esq.

Lord Cloncurry, Sir, is one of the most popular men in this country. He is familiarly known by the appellation of "THE POOR MAN'S PEER." He has what would even be considered in England an ample fortune—but a fortune, ample as it is, far too small for his ambition to be publicly and privately bountiful. He is a man of high education, of taste in the arts, of well-exercised literary talents, and of powers of elocution which would entitle him to occupy a very distinguished place amongst the speakers of your House of Peers—of which, let me add, he would have long since been a member if he had not loved his country so well. We have very few resident noblemen; he is one of them. We have

still fewer, who from qualities, either of head or heart, are capable of being extensively useful in their residence; perhaps the most prominent of these rare benefactors of their country is this excellent individual. He is a practical farmer, living in a district in which he has spread cultivation, and, (in spite of some remarkable incentives to turbulence proceeding from the agents of authority) contrived to maintain peace; he is an encourager of arts and manufactures; a promoter of education and all sorts of industry; a good employer, a liberal landlord; and added to all, the dispenser of a magnificent hospitality. I feel that I sketch the qualities of the Noble Lord feebly and imperfectly, but I am anxious to put *something* upon paper from which your friends in England may be able to form some estimate of the personal and public character of the man who has thought proper to put his name at the head of the list of contributors to the effort to bring you into Parliament, which has been opened in this country.

I have said that I expect subscriptions from many persons. I am not in communication with Mr. O'Connell—but I only state what is known, to most of his friends, when I mention, that he, from the beginning, declared his intention of becoming a contributor. I hope I do not take too much liberty in introducing his name here without any authority from himself—but reasons, which I need not particularly mention, suggest to me, that I should not suffer this letter to reach its destination without stating what are so well known to be his declared intentions, on a matter so interesting to Irishmen in general.

I have the honour to be,

My dear Sir,

Your very faithful and

devoted Servant,

MICHAEL STAUNTON.

To William Cobbett, Esq.,  
&c. &c.



TO  
MICHAEL STAUNTON, ESQ.

Kensington, 12th April, 1826.

MY DEAR SIR,

YOUR letter to me of the 6th instant, including that of LORD CLONCURRY, has, as you may, indeed, well suppose, given me very great satisfaction. I could not be unacquainted with the many excellent qualities, which are well known to distinguish that nobleman; but, many and great as they are, the familiar appellation, which is cited by you, fully comprises the whole; for, when we have detailed and described the various abuses, corruptions, injuries, embarrassments, distresses, misfortunes, and evils of every sort, by which we are beset, we always come to the one, great, and dreadful consequence, namely, *the impoverishment of the main body of the people*, from which impoverishment we find proceeding, as branches from the trunk, that mass of crimes and of hypocrisy, and all those innovations on the law, which threaten to leave us not a vestige of the justly boasted liberties which our forefathers enjoyed.

To look back, and see the state of the country in the days of those forefathers, makes one hang the head with shame. Were they to rise from the grave, and see the present condition of the mass of the people; and were they to find, that no untoward seasons, no convulsions of nature, had produced this change, and that this was become our usual and settled state, they would call upon the turf again to interpose between them and the hideous sight. My ob-

ject, my sole object, in wishing to obtain a seat in parliament, is, the securing of a better chance than I now have of doing that, which might assist others in endeavours to bring about measures, the tendency of which would be to better the lot of the working classes, who now, in every part of the kingdom, are steeped in misery so abject as to make no reasonable man expect truth or honesty at their hands. To change this state of things is, and, for more than twenty years, has invariably been, my ruling object; and, I most solemnly declare, that, if I thought it impossible to do any thing towards the accomplishment of that object, I would, dearly as I love my country, quit her shores for ever, and leave to him who can tranquilly endure it, the disgrace of forming one of a community, in which it is felony to take an apple from a tree, and from which men are frequently transported for the crime of being fifteen minutes absent from their dwellings between sun-set and sun-rise.

I was, not long ago, far distant from this disgraceful scene: I was not only in a state of safety, but was surrounded by cordial and admiring friends; and by all those circumstances which tend to make life pleasant. But, unable to efface from my recollection the degraded state of my country, and thinking that I had the power to assist in her restoration, I followed the dictates of duty in preference to those of selfish enjoyment. I was by no means unaware of the toils, the difficulties, the dangers I had to encounter; but, when I saw the American labourer three times a day sitting down to his

meal of solid meat; when I beheld him well clothed and of lusty frame; and when I reflected, that he was descended from the same stock with the ragged and potato-fed skeletons that I had left behind me, my cheek burned at the cowardly thought of closing my eyes for ever without an attempt to restore them to happiness.

This attempt I have made, I am constantly making, and I now wish to make with additional means. If those means be placed within my reach, I can safely trust my heart, that my use of them will be such as not to disappoint the hopes and expectations even of the noble Lord, of whose commendations I am so justly proud. As to ill-treated Ireland, where, you are kind enough to say, the securing of these means is a matter of general interest, though no prospect of good to myself, no marks of her gratitude can add to the desire which I have long entertained of seeing her obtain justice at the hands of England, and though nothing of a contrary nature, were I to experience it, could diminish that desire, yet the circumstance which you state, with regard to the intention of Mr. O'CONNELL, induces me to assure you, that in no case whatever, and never less than in this, have I suffered private pique to lurk about my breast, when tendered reconciliation came accompanied with unequivocal and publicly avowed concurrence in the performance of public duty.

For yourself, my dear Sir, accept my best thanks for the manner as well as matter of your communication, and believe me to remain,

Your faithful, and  
most obedient Servant,  
WM. COBBETT.

## THE HUSKISSON JOE.

A CORRESPONDENT has reminded me of some of the adventures of Mr. HUSKISSON's outset in the world. These I shall probably notice next week, when I propose to shew that Mr. HUSKISSON was very largely overpaid, without one shilling even of those two thousand pounds which have now been added to his income. It is not *mending the matter* to reduce the proposed five thousand additional pounds to two. It merely serves as a *gloss*. It merely serves to deceive the people. The five thousand was just as well merited as the two are; and the opposition, as Mr. TIERNEY, very justly called it, is as much, to all intents and purposes, "*His Majesty's opposition*," as the Ministry is His Majesty's Ministry. The whole are, with very few exceptions, as the people at Maidstone told the unanimous Kentish Addressers, "*tared with the same brush*."

## PRICE OF CORN.

THERE are persons, who, seeing that the price of corn does not fall so fast as might have been expected from that decrease in the quantity of paper-money which has brought a considerable quantity of gold into the country; there are persons, who regard this as a sign that the quantity of paper in circulation has not so much effect as I say it has on the prices of produce. In the first place, corn is very far from being the only produce of land. Meat, wool, hides, timber, underwood, cattle, sheep,

pigs, poultry; all these together are worth about seven times as much every year, as the corn is worth; and all these, including butter and cheese, have fallen more than one-fourth part in price, since *late panic* began. Then, in the next place, wheat alone, is not to be taken, but the six sorts of corn; and, taking the six sorts together, the price has fallen pretty nearly one-fifth during the last four months. Wheat itself has fallen more than a sixth, and lastly, we are to take into view the state of the supply, that is to say, the state of the quantity in hand; for though there were to be nothing but a gold and silver currency in the country; though the rags were to be completely abolished; though the King were, agreeably to our toast at the Feast of the Gridiron, to be again the sole maker of money

for his people; though this were to be the case, has any one ever pretended, that *short crops* or wet harvests might not cause wheat to be ten or fifteen shillings a bushel? We have not had very short crops, nor very wet harvests for some years past, but the squandering consumption of the two last years was enormous, and the supply in the London market of the last three months will clearly shew that the stock at present in hand is comparatively small. I am now about to insert a statement of three sorts of corn and flour sold in the London market during the first three months of 1825, and of those sold in the same market during the first three months of 1826. The statement relates to wheat, barley, oats and flour. The figures represent the number of quarters of corn and the number of sacks of flour.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Flour.	
118,215 ....	137,847 ....	264,350 ....	162,584 ....	first 3 months 1825.
60,538 ....	57,910 ....	243,523 ....	125,656 ....	first 3 months 1826.
57,677	79,937	20,827	36,928 ....	decrease.

Thus, the reader will see that the supply of wheat has fallen off nearly one half, and the supply of barley more than one-half. The supply of oats not much; but the supply of flour about a fifth. The question to be put to those who still cling to the hope that the currency can be diminished in quantity, that gold can circulate, without any great reduction of prices; those who cling to this foolish hope, the question to be put to them is this: *What would now have been the price, if the supply of this year had been equal in amount to the supply of last year? Why, wheat would have been from five*

*to six shillings a bushel, instead of being at seven shillings a bushel, as the average account now tells us it is. But the farmer gets nothing, and the landlord gets nothing, by the seven shillings a bushel. The farmer has less to sell than he had to sell last year; and he receives no more money for it at seven shillings a bushel than he would have received last year, by selling it from five to six shillings a bushel. He carries home no more money at last, than, with his last year's stock, he would have carried home with the further reduced price. Away, then, with your hopes, you that*

still dream, for the second or third time; you that still entertain the hope that Prosperity Robinson will be a true, and that I shall be a false, Prophet. I again say, that, to make gold stay in this country, without a very great reduction of the taxes, will make the sufferings of the country intolerable, unless the landlords choose to forego all rents, or, in other words, to give up their estates to the tax-eaters.

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### THE KING'S FEET.

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I READ, the other day, the report of some speeches of enlightened operatives, who were met to consider of petitioning against the Corn Bill; the following words:—

“If the landlords persevere in imposing a tax on bread, we will cease to make applications to them for redress, and lay an account of our sufferings at the feet of our Sovereign.” If I were their sovereign, I would add one suffering to those which they already endure; for, to a certainty, one of my feet should give them a souse in the chops. Whence this servile language? It was wholly

unknown to Englishmen before the days of God-save-the-King loyalty, which began about thirty-two years ago. *Majesty* and *monarch* were wholly unknown in England until after the Protestant Reformation. The King was called *his Highness*; and it is curious to observe that the moment the nation dropped that title, it began to sink in point of relative power, in comparison with the nations of the continent. The coxcombs now talk of nothing

short of *empire*. ‘We have got an “imperial gallon” and an “imperial yard,” so declared by Act of Parliament; and, I verily believe, that, if “late panic” had not luckily come, in time, we should have had an emperor this very year. New, numerous, and big-sounding titles, and adulatory language from the people to the sovereign, whether in poems or petitions, have invariably been amongst the signs of a sinking state. But, to say the truth, for labouring people to be ashamed of the honest names of *mechanic, artisan, journeyman, and labourer*, is just of the same character, and proceeds from the same cause, as this stuff about the King’s feet. It is a species of ridiculous pride for men to call themselves *operatives*, instead of using the well-known appellation of journeyman or labourer; and wherever such vain pride is discoverable, you always find it to have scurrility as a counterpoise.

“Meanness that sours, and pride that licks the dust.”

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### PROTESTANT “REFORMATION.”

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THIS Work is now finished. It contains sixteen numbers, which may be had in loose numbers, at four shillings; or, any single number may be had for three pence; or the whole may be had, neatly bound in boards, for four shillings and sixpence. It was my intention to publish a list of all the *Abbeys, Priories, Hospitals, &c.*, divided under the heads of the several *Counties*, to give the date of the foundation; the name of the founder, the value of each piece of

property at the time of the seizure, and the value that it would have been of at this time; and also the *name of the person to whom each parcel of property was given by Henry VIII. and his successors*. Such was my intention; but I could not do justice to the work itself in less than the sixteen numbers of which it is composed; and this makes the price of the work four shillings and sixpence, a price much higher than I could wish it to be; because no reasonable person can expect that such prodigious labour as I have performed in the execution of this work should not be followed by some return of profit. To add the list of the monasteries in England and in Ireland, must necessarily increase the price full one third. I may, perhaps, publish this list in a separate state; but I cannot bring myself to load the work with it, which work I am extremely anxious to cause to be read by as many persons as possible. When Mr. CHARLES BUTLER objected to the passing of some vote expressive of Catholic gratitude to me, and *which vote, observe, was not passed*; at that time I entertained, but I *had not expressed*, my intention to write this history. This decision, on the part of the Catholics, did not prevent me from undertaking and performing this mass of labour. The *history* of this history is this: when in Long Island, I wrote a letter addressed to MALTHUS, the *check-population* parson, the letter was entitled "*The rights of the Poor.*" The object of it was to shew that his project was not more hostile to humanity than it was to the law of nature and to the laws of England, which had

always recognised the right of the indigent to receive relief from the land, let who would be the owners of that land. This led me to seek for proofs as to the principle upon which the poor were provided for in ancient times. I found, in the Acts of Parliament, and the Canons of the Church, the manner in which this relief was provided for in Catholic times. This led me to trace the change from the beginning of the Reformation, in the time of Henry VIII. to the enactment of the Poor-Laws in the reign of Elizabeth. As I was pursuing this inquiry, I saw what were the prices of labour, what the price of provisions and clothing, before the Reformation. I saw how happy the people then were, what a salutary effect the Catholic Church had with regard to their morals and their living. I knew how great and how famous England had been in those days, and I now discovered that her real solid wealth had been in proportion to her greatness and to her renown in arms; but, above all things, my mind became deeply impressed with the ease and happiness which the common people enjoyed in those days, compared with that wretchedness and misery in which I had left them but a few months before the time of my inquiries. I was stricken with the monstrous injustice of Protestant historians; I reflected on the numerous instances in which I myself had been the dupe of their delusions; and, while my mind was full of the subject, I determined to write something in order to counteract that injustice. I even said, in a Register written in Long Island, *that I would write a Church History of England*, which the

late Mr. PERRY regarded as an excellent subject for a pretty little laughing paragraph. The matter, though in some sort banished from my mind by the tremendous deeds of the system, in 1819 and 1820, was never wholly forgotten. The year after, the matter was revived by a very curious occurrence. The letter to Malthus, above-mentioned, together with several essays of mine, asserting the rights of the poor, having attracted the notice of some person (I do not know who); that person sent me a book entitled "The History of the Poor; their Rights, Duties, and the Laws respecting them; by THOMAS RUGGLES, Esq., F.A.S., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the Counties of Essex and Suffolk." In this work I found a Preface to the Second Edition, as well as to the First Edition. The book that I had was, of course, of the Second Edition. In this preface to the Second Edition, I found a passage to the following effect: MR. RUGGLES COMPLAINS THAT HIS WORK HAD BEEN TREATED WITH SILENT NEGLECT, ON ACCOUNT OF A PASSAGE CONTAINED IN THE FIRST EDITION. Now, I beg the reader to bear this in mind, and then he shall hear WHAT THIS PASSAGE WAS. He OMITTED this OFFENSIVE passage, in the Second Edition. He omitted it in the Second Edition, for this reason; because its insertion in the first, had caused his work to be treated with silent neglect; and because it had caused to be called in question *his principles AS A FRIEND TO THE HIERARCHY*. Now then, what

was this offensive passage? It was this, or at least this is his description of it: "that there existed an *equitable expectation* that *the clergy* of the present day would assist in the management and domestic regulations of the poor; because, IN CATHOLIC TIMES, they were not only spiritual pastors; but dis-tributors of relief to the distressed OUT OF THE REVENUES OF THE CHURCH." —There! That was the passage which caused this Protestant magistrate's book to be treated with *silent neglect*, and caused the author to be suspected *not to be a friend to the hierarchy!*—If any man wants more than that to convince him of the foul and base hostility which has been exercised towards the Catholics; if any man wants more than that, he is a willing dupe; he is no Protestant from principle; but from ignorance or selfishness.—The reading of this preface to Mr. RUGGLES's book renewed in my mind my Long Island project. Still I did not put pen to paper; but, after the sufferings of Ireland, in 1822, I began to read, now and then, at my leisure, and to set apart an hour or two, now and then, to think about the matter. I was quite prepared for the task when Mr. BUTLER begged and prayed of the Catholic Meeting, declared that he would go *down upon his knees* to them, if they would *not pass a vote of thanks to me*, lest they should give umbrage to some of their most *powerful friends!* The conduct of Mr. BUTLER, and the conduct of the meeting, had no effect upon me. I undertook my job, and I neglected it not for one day, until it was completed: Such is the history of the History

of the Protestant Reformation, which is now publishing in two stereotype editions in the United States of America, in the English language; which is now publishing in South America, in Spanish; which is now publishing by Meunier, a bookseller at Paris, in the French language; which is now publishing at Rome, in Italian; which a gentleman has written to me for my approbation of his publishing at Geneva; and (what I think ten thousand times more of than all the rest) which is now read by thousands upon thousands of sensible and just Protestants in England. It gives me some pain to reflect, that it would be great injustice to those, for whom it is my duty to provide, to publish it in England without a fair profit, such as is usually attached to a copy-right book. I have made it as low-priced as I can without going further than my circumstances, all things considered, would render proper. If those circumstances would permit it, all the people of England should read this book; or, at least, should have it placed within their reach. In order to do this thing well, I have laid aside more than one other thing, which would have brought me much greater remuneration for my labour; and, therefore, further sacrifices at my hands no reasonable man can possibly expect.—I cannot, at present, name any particular time when I shall publish the *List of the Monasteries*; but, as I said before, I cannot bring myself to decide upon adding to the expense of the book in any way whatever; so that, it may, as it now stands, be deemed complete.

### ALDERNEY COWS.

I FIND, that, notwithstanding the "*free-trade*" law, these pretty, useful and convenient little cows, are still imported; and I shall have some particulars to state, relative to them, next week.

### MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending April 1.

Per Quarter.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat . . .	56	5	Rye . . .	37	10
Barley . . .	30	11	Beans . . .	34	9
Oats . . .	22	4	Pease . . .	35	6

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended April 1.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat . . .	34,027	Rye . . .	205
Barley . . .	21,172	Beans . . .	2,746
Oats . . .	26,771	Pease . . .	1,050

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, April 1.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.		s.	d.	
Wheat...	6,768	for	21,003	13	3	Average,	62	0
Barley...	4,063	..	6,968	2	9	...	33	9
Oats...	15,522	..	19,666	15	0	...	25	4
Rye....	29	..	45	2	8	...	31	1
Beans...	1,445	...	2,572	1	11	...	35	7
Pease...	464	...	1,890	17	6	...	28	4

Friday, April 7.—There are moderate arrivals of all sorts of Grain this week, except Oats, of which the quantity is large. The best samples of Wheat sold slowly at Monday's prices, but other sorts are extremely dull. In Barley, Beans, Pease, and Oats, trade is heavy at last quotations.

Monday, April 10.—During the chief part of last week the supplies of most kinds of Grain were moderate; but towards the close there was

a considerable accession to the quantity of Oats, a great part of which came from Ireland. This morning the fresh arrivals of nearly all descriptions of Corn are again moderate. There is much briskness in the trade for fine Wheat to-day, at terms rather exceeding those of this day se'nnight; and for all other qualities there is an improved demand, and a tolerable clearance made. The top price of Flour is expected to advance 5s. per sack.

Best Malting Barley finds buyers at last quotations, but other sorts are very dull. Beans that are dry meet sale freely at rather more money. Boiling and Grey Peas are unaltered. There has been a limited demand for Oats since last Monday, and the prices have given way a trifle, but upon the whole good samples cannot be termed lower.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from April 3 to April 8, both inclusive.

Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat... 3,330	Tares ....	—
Barley .. 4,222	Linseed ..	—
Malt.... 4,912	Rapeseed ..	—
Oats .... 31,463	Brank ..	10
Beans .... 834	Mustard ..	—
Flour.... 6,321	Flax ....	—
Rye ....	Hemp ....	—
Pease.... 269	Seeds ...	25

Monday, April 10.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 6,078 firkins of Butter, and 4,389 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports 4 casks of Butter.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack .....	53s. — 55s.
Secandes .....	48s. — 50s.
North Country ..	42s. — 46s.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

## HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, April 10.—Our Hop market continues dull, the demand being confined to 1824's and 1825's, in which there is more doing. Complaints of flea have been received from Canterbury and several parts of Kent; the plants are at present too backward for them to do injury.

Worcester, April 5.—On Saturday 130 pockets were weighed; prices rather lower; average 9l. to 10l.

SMITHELD, Monday, April 10.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	8	to	4 6
Mutton ...	4	0	—	4 10
Veal .....	6	0	—	6 6
Pork .....	5	2	—	6 2
Lamb .....	6	0	—	7 0

Beasts ...	2,808	Sheep ..	16,520
Calves....	126	Pigs ....	140

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	0	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 0
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 8
Lamb .....	4	8	—	6 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	0	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 2
Veal .....	3	4	—	5 6
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	0	—	6 0

COAL MARKET, April 7.

Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.

48½ Newcastle..	31½	29s. 0d. to 37s. 6d.
8 Sunderland..	8	27s. 0d. — 37s. 9d.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, April 8.—We had a large supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, with an exceedingly flat sale; prices 6s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs.; and 7s. was obtained for the best of them, and a large proportion of them remained unsold; the supply of Store Stock was also very large; Scots sold more freely at 4s. per stone, when fat. Pigs selling at low prices, and many remained unsold.

*Horncastle*, April 8.—Beef, 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 7d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

*Manchester*, April 5.—The supply of both Beef and Mutton to this day's market was short, and prime Beef sold at prices fully as high as quoted; in Sheep the quality was pretty fair, but short in quantity, at an advance in price.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, there were a good many Cattle, and rather a short supply of Sheep; there being a great demand, they sold readily, prices much the same—Beef, from 6s. 3d. to 7s.; and Mutton, 7s. to 8s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended April 1, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	57	5	32	11	25	4
Essex	60	7	30	8	25	8
Kent	59	6	33	10	24	9
Sussex	52	6	31	1	23	2
Suffolk	55	6	31	3	25	7
Cambridgeshire	50	8	27	6	19	6
Norfolk	53	10	27	6	20	9
Lincolnshire	57	4	29	6	19	6
Yorkshire	54	3	28	3	20	3
Durham	56	6	32	2	28	4
Northumberland	54	2	31	9	23	10
Cumberland	63	0	31	5	22	6
Westmoreland	63	0	38	0	23	8
Lancashire	62	10	0	0	25	7
Cheshire	59	9	0	0	24	0
Gloucestershire	52	5	33	11	23	10
Somersetshire	58	11	34	10	21	4
Monmouthshire	56	8	34	11	23	6
Devonshire	57	5	31	10	19	2
Cornwall	59	8	31	2	24	3
Dorsetshire	56	9	29	3	22	5
Hampshire	55	7	30	8	25	0
North Wales	60	6	34	7	21	9
South Wales	54	10	29	3	16	6

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

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## THE HUSKISSON JOB.

Kensington, 19th April, 1826.

WHEN PITT and his set, in 1804, did the famous *Isle of Man Job*, by which the public became saddled with an additional *three thousand pounds a year for ever*, the late ELLENBOROUGH, when the thing was before the House of Lords, said, that the state of affairs resembled "that on board of a ship in *distress*, when the crew, "instead of working to save her, "were engaged, each in getting "what he could by rifling the

" chests." Now, ours being days of such great *prosperity*, coming constantly pouring forth from the "ancient portals"; those busy gamblers and jobbers called *mercants*; those modest and merciful creatures, called *great manufacturers*; those "architects and civil engineers," who used to be called "master carpenters," and the like, who are engaged in extending and beautifying the *WEN*; all the "*waust improvers*" of things, in this enlightened age and country; all those being in such a *prosperous* state, and the prosperity being on a hand-gallop, getting on towards the *land*: this being the

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case, the words that late Ellenborough applied to the ATHOL-AFFAIR will, doubtless, be thought inapplicable to this of Mr. HUSKISSON.

Besides, it is nonsense to be *out of temper* about it; for, he is as well worthy of this new sum as he, or any of his associates, are of any thing they now have. To talk of the *more* or the *less* is, in such a case, to do all that they want done: it is to say, that they are worthy of *something*: I say, that they are worthy of *nothing*: those who think with me are consistent in complaining of this addition to the charge upon us: those who do not, those who think that some men ought to have *any* of our money, may howl away for what I care, and the more they suffer, the better I like it. Such men are fit for nothing but to work for Mr. HUSKISSON and his like: they are, like asses, made to bear burdens, and to receive blows. Talk to me not of their *sufferings*: they must suffer: such cowardly creatures are taught by suffering, and

only by suffering. Such is their baseness, that they affect to regard the taking away of their money as *necessary to their good*, and this, in order to disguise their want of spirit to oppose it. A great part, a very great part, of the nation, is composed of such people. They must suffer: nothing but suffering will make them act the part of men.

Mr. HUSKISSON has been a "fortunate youth," a really fortunate youth, thus far, at least. He has, for about 25 years, had a pension settled upon him of 1200*l.* a year, which he is to receive, whenever he has a salary of less than 2000*l.* a year; and his wife has a pension, settled on her, of 600*l.* for life, if she outlive him. This was pretty *good luck* for him at the age of about 28 years, and before it was pretended, that he had ever rendered any *public service* that any body had ever heard of. He had been well and duly and most highly paid his salary, or salaries; and this was so much in the way of

gift. He has lived 25 years since that pension was settled on him, and, if he had had no office exceeding 2000*l.* a year, he would have had the 1200*l.* a year all the while, making a total sum, up to this day, of just 30,000*l.* leaving interest out of the question. He got the pension for several years, and other incomes too; not amounting to 2000*l.* a year. But, let us suppose, that he had, up to this time, got nothing more than the pension. He then would have had, *for nothing*, as much as the wages of *sixty labourers*, at 8*s.* a week, and their families, making all together, *three hundred persons*! His wife is to have, after his death, as much as 150 of these labouring people. And he *now* has, in what they call 4000*l.* a year, as much as *two hundred* labouring men's families, making *a thousand persons*. So that he swallows just about as much as the whole of the working people, smiths, wheelwrights and all, in *two such villages as Botley*! Is it any wonder, that the working peo-

ple are in rags and half-starved? In the reign of Edward' III., and, indeed, until the event, called the "*Reformation*," even the Lord Chief Justice of England received, on an average of years, not more pay than about *fourteen* common labouring men received. Hence it is that England was then a country of *good living*; hence came all the sayings about *roast-beef* and *plumb-pudding*, things of which Mr. HUSKISSON may still talk, but which the wretched mass of the people never even smell. But, says Sir ROBERT PEELE, it is all "*a family account*"! Very true; but, here is *one* of the family, who swallows as much as *a thousand* others of this same family; and what should we say of the father, who gave a thousand times as much food to one child as to each of certain other of his children!

Aye; but Mr. Huskisson's *great services*. What are they? Let us trace him along a little. He began by being a Clerk in the *Alien-Office*; he next became an

Under-Secretary to the elder Dundas; he then became (after he had *tasted of the pension*) a Secretary of the Treasury; he next became Surveyor of Crown Lands; then Paymaster of the Navy. He has been a *Right Honourable Privy Councillor* and a *Member of Parliament* the greater part of this time, without any cost to himself. This is pretty well; and, as to *services* in these several offices, where is the *merchant's clerk*, who would not have performed them as well as he? You think that these offices require *great talents*, do you, reader? Pay him, then: be taxed, then: dine upon a mutton-bone, then: and, let the poor-house see the last of you! *Pay*, indeed, you must, and so must I; but, if you think *it right*, be not such a beast as to complain of your hardships from poverty.

But, it is as a *statesman* that our "*fortunate youth*" has rendered us services, and especially as to matters of *trade*. Come, then, let us trace him as a *states-*

*man*. And, first, what is a *statesman*? This is a word of considerable humbug. Every fellow that even hangs on to the skirts of a Minister calls himself a statesman. The word designates a man capable of managing the great concerns of a state; and a state is a nation, including all the parts of its government. A statesman, therefore, means a man capable of conducting a nation's affairs, as a merchant means a man capable of conducting the affairs of a mercantile concern. Now, the first appearance of Mr. HUSKISSON as a meddler in great national affairs was, his proposition (as one of the Bullion Committee), to compel the Bank of England to pay in gold, at the *end of two years* from 1811; though the war was still going on, though more than *seventy millions* a year were collected in taxes; though loans to the amount of thirty millions every year, were making at the time; still in the face of this he proposed to return to gold payments at the end of two years from that time.

A proposition, the extreme folly of which, I demonstrated at the time, in PAPER against GOLD; a proposition which is now agreed, by all mankind, to have been little short of the effect of *madness*.

And, it was not merely as a Member of the Committee, that he made this proposition. He must needs make it in a distinct pamphlet, published under his own name, he being out of office at the time, and receiving only the amount of his pension. Next he gave his hearty assent to *Peel's Bill*, which he very well might; for, that Bill provided for cash payments, *ten long years* after he, in his wisdom, thought that it ought to have taken place! Well, *Peel's Bill* passed, and it was going on towards the day when it was to go into full effect. But, now, nine months before the cash payments were to arrive, Mr. HUSKISSON, now become a Privy Councillor and a Member of the Cabinet, is one of those, who bring in a Bill, which repealed, in part, this very Bill of Peel, and

which was intended, and which actually did, prevent a return to those very cash payments, which this very statesman wanted to have taken place in 1813, and that, too, in the midst of a wasteful war, of which, at that time, no man could see the probable duration.

This new scheme, this abandonment of all Mr. HUSKISSON's previous principles and measures, produced a temporary and fallacious prosperity; and he was amongst the loudest in boasting of the success of the abandonment of the principles which he had formerly held. He was warned at the time, repeatedly warned of the consequences; yet he was one of that cabinet, who put into the King's mouth, even in July last, an unqualified boast of general and permanent prosperity; and, when the bubble bursted, when his new scheme of paper-money had sent hundreds of thousands to death or plunged them into despair, he turned round upon the victims of the measures

in which he had had full participation, called them by the opprobrious names of gamblers and speculators, denominated the false money, which he had assisted to create, "*worthless rags*"; affected to pity the poor, who never could have been injured by those rags, had it not been for his measures; and concluded, along with his colleagues, in producing another measure in direct contradiction to the last measure, which measure, though become absolutely necessary to preserve the existence of the Government, even for the space of six months, has plunged hundreds of thousands of families into the deepest distress, while it has in store ruin upon ruin, to other hundreds of thousands of families, and while, from the everlasting chopping and changing in the conduct of the Ministers, all the affairs of men, in every rank of life, are rendered so uncertain, that no man can with propriety say, that he has any thing that he can call his own. And this is a "*Statesman*"; this is a man to manage the affairs of a nation; this is a man on whom our money is to be lavished, for his services to us!

One part of the duty of a Statesman is, to preserve the existence of the Government of

which he is a member; and another part is, to take care that the main body of the people live as well, and lead as happy lives, as they did when he first became a statesman. As to the first, where is the man who will say, that the very existence of the Government was not brought into jeopardy only a few months ago? This great Statesman himself acknowledged, that we were, at one time, within a very little of coming to a state of barter; and then we should have seen that the day-labourer, the mechanic, and more especially the soldier, would have had to barter for his bread and his meat. And is it a Statesman that produces such a state of things; and that then turns short upon the wretches whom he has deluded, reviles them as gamblers, and, for the first time in his whole life (having read my second Lecture to the Mechanics), talks of an "*usurpation of the King's prerogative*," by men who are issuing the paper-money, in virtue of licenses granted by himself and his colleagues, and paying a stamp duty on the paper, which he now denominates *worthless rags*!

As to the condition of the people whose money he has been receiving for so many years, it is

notorious, that condition has been growing worse and worse from the day that he began to receive their money. What *excuse* has he for this? If he be not *answerable* for it, who is? At any rate, is it in such a state of things, that he is to demand an additional pay? Is this the course that men pursue in the ordinary affairs of life? When a concern is found to be flourishing; indeed; when all belonging to it are gaining; when there is a superabundant product from it, then the manager may reasonably ask for additional remuneration for his labour and talents: but, when just the contrary is the case; when all is decay and decrepitude; when all but a particular class are suffering; and when those sufferings are reasonably regarded as a foretaste of greater sufferings to come; when this is the case, is it not monstrous for the manager to put forward a claim to applause, and not only that, but a claim to additional pay into the bargain? for him to say, or act as if he said, Now, that your affairs are all in confusion, and you are steeped in poverty to your very lips, now that you are smarting and bleeding under the scourge of my management, you shall give me the double of what you gave me before?

But, it is as *Trade-Minister* that this "*Statesman*" excels: it is to that which he has given his days and his nights; it is as a *reward for giving us "free trade,"* that we are now called upon to give him money. It is impossible to speak of this free-trade project, disconnected from the Corn Law. It is monstrous, beyond compare, to suppose it possible for a man in Sussex to make a pair of gloves for as little as they can be made by a man in Normandy, if the man in Sussex have to pay twice as much for his bread and for all the other necessities of life, as the man in Normandy has to pay: therefore, it is worse than contemptible to talk of free trade, unless there be a free trade in corn and in all the other necessities of life; and now, let us see the part, which this sublime and profound "*Statesman*" has acted, with regard to corn and other things, necessities of life. In the first place, if he were not absolutely the projector, he was the *main supporter of the Corn Bill*, for which the people of Havant, in Hampshire, *burnt him in effigy!* He said, upon that occasion, that corn could not be cheap, that it must, and that it ought to be of high price, as long as the country had to pay the then:



amount of taxes ; and that amount has been diminished since, but in a very trifling degree. He then said, that there could be no rents if corn was not of high price, and he said that it was the duty of the Parliament to uphold the landlords.

In pursuance of these principles, he was party to the measure for shutting out the cattle, sheep, and pigs, which came at that time in such quantities from France. Thus he did all in his power to prevent the manufacturers in England from having food as cheap as those of France. Now he has discovered that free trade is the best of all possible things, and he is opening our ports to the ships and the fabrics of other countries, while he keeps those ports closely shut against foreign food of every description. He has talked, indeed of a revision of the corn laws ; but he himself proposed an exclusion of cattle, and of various other things, necessities of life ; and, as to the Corn Bill itself, he is one of those who begin the Session of Parliament with declaring, that they do not mean to touch this Bill for another year ! And this is a "statesman," and one who demands money, too, for his labours in promoting free trade !

Here, too, we have him as an ambassador or negotiator, going to persuade the French Government, that *both the nations would gain* by adopting his projects. From the moment that I read of his departure, and of the errand on which he was bound, I said, and I published, that he would *fail*, that the French Minister was not to be taken in, by a projector so silly ; and I also said, that every great and really independent nation would reject his propositions with scorn, or, rather with contempt. There are three such commercial nations ; America, France, and Russia ; and they have all, not only rejected his overtures, but have, from these very overtures, taken the hint, to make their own commercial systems with regard to England, *more restrictive than ever*. The French Minister, in his speech to the Peers of France, said that France has grown rich by the present system ; and the American President, compared with whom, whether for experience or for talent, Mr. HUSKISSON is a child, has, in recommending measures to encourage domestic manufactures, bestowed all the ridicule that became the dignity of his station, on that miserable trash, which has been denominated

liberality in trade. What they have said of our statesman in Russia, I know not; but they have rejected our statesman's overtures; and we shall finally see that this country, after sufferings enormous, from the schemes of this projector, will again return to that rigidly restrictive system of our ancestors, whose cautious proceedings and solid measures, this projector and his partisans have made a subject of their flippancy and ridicule.

In the meanwhile, are the manufacturers and traders *well off*? Are they not, on the contrary, plunged in distress without a parallel? Did our forefathers ever bear of whole districts maintained by subscription; five thousand people here, ten thousand there, twenty thousand in another place, prowling about for food, picking potato peelings from the kennel, eating horse flesh and draff, (grains); and detected in stealing the food from a pig's trough! These are notorious facts; and if there were only one score of persons reduced to this state in the country, one single score of industrious manufacturers thus reduced, ought the *Minister of Trade*, to come forward and demand an addition to his pay? In one district

in Yorkshire, the Subscription Committee reports, that they have ten thousand persons to supply with food. After stating the means they had made use of in the furnishing of this supply, they state that they had found it more convenient to distribute oatmeal alone, and that they found that *four pounds of oatmeal a week was sufficient for each person*. Alas! what a difference between the food of these poor creatures and the *horses of the dragoons*, each of which latter have more than double the weight of oatmeal for one single day, exclusive of hay; so that a dragoon horse has about four times the food, per day, that a poor soul in Yorkshire has in a week. Rob the *pig troughs*! Aye, to be sure! I fattened three pigs upon oatmeal this last winter; but, mark, not without mixing it with skim milk; and every pig had, I dare say, at every single meal, as much as is allowed the Yorkshire man to eat in a week. Talk of madness! Well, indeed, may there be county asylums for the mad, when there are wretches base and prostituted enough to tell us, that, in such a state of things, it is just and proper to lavish additional pay upon the Minister of Trade! The man who can approve of such a grant can

be justly described by no words that we have in our language. Those who gave their assent to the two thousand pounds' addition to this man's salary, are entitled to every atom of that which we ought to bestow upon those who proposed the five thousand pounds' addition, there is not a particle of difference between them; and no difference will be made, by any man who has a grain of sincerity in him. I cannot conclude this article, without noticing the very affecting picture; drawn by Mr. CANNING, of the great and mind-destroying toil of this superlative Statesman. He, in a melancholy tone, reminded the House of the sad fate of a "late lamented Statesman, whose powers had been broken down by his intense application in the Committee which sat on the subject of agriculture and corn." He did not actually name the great "Statesman" who cut his own throat in North Cray, in Kent, and who was mad, while he executed the offices of the three Secretaries of State, unless the evidences were false which were produced before the Coroner and Jury; he did not actually name this "lamented Statesman," over whose remains the newspapers told us, that the people at West-

minster gave a loud and exulting shout; he did not actually name him, and if he meant him, the Right Honourable Sinecurist had forgotten that the late lamented Statesman sat on the Agricultural Committee early in 1821; and that he did not cut his throat until August, 1822; so that if his powers were broken down by that intense labour, our affairs were carried on by a person of broken-down powers, for a pretty long time. But Mr. GOOCH, Gaffer GOOCH, was the *Chairman* of that Committee; and we have not found that his powers were broken down. What a miserable, what a shameful pretence is this; and particularly when all this labour, if labour it be, has produced, and is likely to produce, nothing but mischief. As I once before observed, the Lord Chief Justice performs, take the year through, more labour in a week, has more intense application than any one of these Ministers performs and has in a whole year. He has not a majority always at his back, to screen him from the effects of his blunders if he commit any. He is obliged well to weigh every word that comes from his lips. There are men as learned as himself to detect and expose every tittle of error into which he may

fall. And there are settled rules from which he cannot escape, which provide effectually for the making of him answerable for his errors. He is not surrounded by a parcel of clerks, who are looking up to him for their bread, and who are at once his flatterers and the real executors of his office. There is the Lord Chancellor, too. His emoluments are great; but, if pay is to be measured by the quantity of labour, and the weight of responsibility, does not he deserve ten thousand pounds a year as much as Mr. HUSKISSON, or any such man, deserves half-a-crown a day? The Corn Committee! What! A Minister's powers "*broken down*," by sitting and asking questions of a parcel of Corn Merchants and Bull-frog Farmers! By sitting and hearing Mr. CURWEN brag of his large crops of *Swedish Turnips*, and Young ELLMAN taking the opportunity to observe on the extraordinary beauty of his *South-Down tups*! These, and such like, trifling rubbish, make up nine-tenths of what was given, in what is called Evidence, in that famous Committee, for the printing of which this wretched people paid a pretty round sum of money. Such stuff might make a man laugh, or might induce him to drive the babblers out

of the room; but what sort of a brain must that have been, that could have been turned upside down by such a cause. When, indeed, the elder Mr. ELLMAN came, and told the Committee, that *forty-five years ago, every labourer's family in his parish brewed their own beer, and enjoyed it by their own fire-side*, and that NOW none of them did it, unless he gave them the malt: when, indeed, Mr. HANNING came, and told the Committee, that *formerly the labourers in his parish had bread and meat and cheese*, and that NOW they had potatoes and nothing but potatoes in the field as well as at home; when the Committee were told these things, they heard, indeed, that which might have had a serious effect on the mind of the man, who had been one of the chief instruments in reducing the people to this state; but, unfortunately for the theory of Mr. CANNING, THE REPORT, drawn up and presented by this intense Committee, took no more notice of these things than if it had been so many flies that were now reduced to live upon potatoes and water.

Nothing more is necessary upon the subject. All those who know any thing at all of public matters, understand the whole thing well,

and if they approve of this man's receiving, out of the labour of the people, as much money every year, as goes to the support of the labouring people of two villages, like Botley, then they merit every species of suffering that this system can inflict upon them.

### THE PROGRESS OF THE THING.

TO MR. PEELE.

SIR,

Kensington, 19th April, 1826.

YOUR new Bill for altering the Criminal Law of England, is a bolder step than has been before taken to assimilate this Government to those upon the Continent of Europe. This, however, is far, I dare say, from the last step that is now in contemplation, and that will, indeed, be necessary, in order to carry on this system of *taxation* and of *paper-money*, which system must, at last, bring *military guards into every village in England*, as it already has in Ireland, where *armed men*, paid by the Government, go to enforce the collection of *tithes* as well as that of *taxes*.

"THE LAWS OF ENGLAND" have been the boast of more than *a thousand years*. But, during the

last three hundred, these last laws have been changing. The change was, however, not very great, till the *paper-money and taxing system* came. These came in 1694, when the Bank of England and its notes, and when the *funds* were created. Then began that accursed THING, which mortgages the labour of the child in the cradle; which draws wealth into large masses; which grinds down the working classes; which sets hunger and thirst and cold to make war upon property; which demands new and enlarged gaols; which calls for barracks, spies, and *police*; and which must, at last, bring the "*gens d'armes*" and the "*gardes champêtres*;" that is to say, armed men to guard the houses, the travellers, and the fields.

"THE LAWS OF ENGLAND," says BLACKSTONE, "know of no such thing as a *standing soldier*; no barracks, no *internal fortresses*." BLACKSTONE said this long after the late King came to the throne! What "*vaust improvements*" we have made since his day! I wonder what his daughter (Dean Rennell's wife,) who lives at Winchester, and who has seen the *King's house* turned into a *barrack*, and has seen the scite of *Alfred's tomb* become the

scite of a *bridewell*; I wonder what she, if she ever read her father's book, thinks of these "*waust* improvements." I wonder what the *Dean* himself thinks of them! I should like to hear what *he* has to say about them.

The progress of the **THING** went on gradually in producing an addition of poverty, of crime, of severity of punishment, and in bringing the standing soldier *nearer and nearer* to a direct acting with, or, instead of, the *peace-officer*; the **THING** went gradually on producing these effects, until the days of the *power of Pitt*: then it proceeded by leaps, and no longer by steps. He and his followers made the taxes four-fold what he found them. And, as the taxes went on augmenting barracks increased, new and large gaols were demanded; and now we behold these all over the country.

When the taxes had caused poverty to a certain extent, it was found that the *hanging* in London was too frequent to be performed at **TYBURN**: the exhibitions took people from their work too frequently: then came the *hanging* at the prison-door: a "*waust* improvement," worthy of this enlightened age.

The *Old Justice of the Peace*

with his warrant, and the *Old Constable* with his staff, were no longer in consonance with "*the improvements of the age*," and we, like other polite nations, must have "*a POLICE*," a French word, held in *abhorrence*, in England, until the days of Pitt and small paper-money. It was one of the things on account of which we used to *laugh* at the "*slaves of France*!" It was one of those very things, which *ADDISON* held up in *terror* to the English, in the reign of Queen Anne, when a French invasion, in behalf of the "*Pretender*," was expected. The "*Lieutenant de Police*," and his runners and pass-ports and spies, were a theme of everlasting ridicule on the French. Alas! We have since heard the employment of spies *openly defended* in Parliament; and we even *boast* of our Police! The sellers of liquor and the let-*t*ers out of carriages and horses have been, long been, a sort of half-spies. In 1820, when the movements of people was an object of great attention, I took a post-chaise to go from London to Bromley. Before the post-boy quitted the inn to go back, he came to me to ask me *whither I was going*; and, when I asked him what might be his *reason* for put-

ting that question to me, he said, that his master *told the boys always to find out*, if they could, and to carry back word, *whither their fare were going*, if they went on any of the Kent-roads. Before I had done with him he told me, that *gentlemen* came to his master to know what people went from his house in chaises, and whither they went. I told the boy, that I had no objection to answer his question, if he would first answer some questions that I would take the liberty to put to him. I then asked him the name, age, and height of his master, the christian name of his mistress, her age, height, colour of her hair and skin, how many children she had, their several names and ages, whether she had had a child or children before she was married, whether she were cleanly or a slut; what might be the usual quantity of gin she drunk every day, whether she ever took a tift with him, whether her breath were sweet: I was going on, but he stopped me here with: "What right have you to ask me that?" And, said I, "you impudent scoundrel, what right have you to ask me whither I am going?" He said, that it was not his fault; that he was only doing as his master bade him: "Go, then," said I, "and tell the ras-

cally spy, to enable you to say, "in future, whether his wife's breath be sweet, or whether it smell of stale gin and beer; for, until I know that, you shall not know whither I am going."

PITT'S POLICE was, *at first*, a trifling affair; but, it soon grew up to a most "respectable" magnitude; and, which is well worthy of remark, the salaries of the Police-Justices have, little by little, been *doubled* during that series of years which has seen the wages of the labourers come down to *one-half* of what they were before! Most curious this: but, we soon discover the reason of it. In proportion as the main body of the people become poor and miserable, the means of keeping them in order must be augmented. Judges, Police-Justices, thieftakers, jailers, hangmen, having *so much more to do*, must be *better paid* than they formerly were. But, perhaps, the most striking thing of all; is, the *standing soldiers' pay*, compared with that of the *labourer*. In 1790 (about 5 years after Pitt began his career), the pay of the common foot-soldier was *sixpence a day*; that is to say, his pay, exclusive of *clothing and lodging*. That pay is now *thirteen pence a day*. Now mark, Sir, the Magistrates

in Berkshire, in 1790, caused to be printed a table of pay to labourers out of work; and, now they allow, to such labourers, **JUST HALF AS MUCH** as was allowed them by that table! In almost all other counties the state of the labourers is a great deal worse. Thus, the soldier has become *richer and higher*, while the mass of the people has been *sinking*. But, this is the regular march of the **THING**: in proportion as it makes the main body of the people poor and miserable and desperate, it *must* raise the pay and augment the numbers of those, be they of what description they may, whose business it is to keep them in order. It must do this; or, it cannot sustain itself; and, therefore, it is nonsense to rail against sinecures, pensions, jobs, and establishments, unless the railer *drive at the whole system*; unless he drive at the **THING** itself.

It is amusing and very instructive, to observe how the **POLICE** has *crept* on quietly. First, it consisted only of a *single office*: then, came another: now, there are offices all over the **WEN**: aye, and there are "*police offices*" in *all the great towns*; and at that deadly hole, Manchester, in the region of the Cotton Lords, there

is a "**NEW BAILEY**" and a "**NEW DROP!**" Those who assist the Police-Justices used to be *runners* and *thief-takers*; they are now called *officers*, and the word *Mr.* is put before their name, and there will soon be an *Esq.* after. Those who had charge of the gaols used to be called *gaolers*; they are now become "*Governors*" and *Esqrs.* The old "*runners*" of the Police, who were a roughish race, have been exchanged for polite persons, dressed in a sort of **HALF-UNIFORM**, and *presenting themselves to one's view every ten minutes in every part of the Wen*: as much as to say, "Take care what you are about, for *here we are!*" Then, in the same sort of *half-uniform*, there is the *horse-police*; but, now comes the *sword* hanging from a belt that goes over the shoulder, *that all the world may see!* Why not take the soldiers at once, Sir? Why boggle at it any longer?

Though I have, on former occasions, mentioned the *new trespass law*, I must again point it out as a bold leap on the very way towards that which every man of sense sees must be the end of all this. Until after the "*Glorious Revolution*," the laws of England knew of no punishment for *tres-*



*pass*, other than a *payment for the damage* done by the trespass, and that, too, settled by a JURY, in consequence of *action brought* by the person to whom the damage was done. This was the law of England as to trespass. The new trespass law abolishes this law of England, as far as *relates to the poor people*. No *action*, no *jury*, no *judge*, now comes to protect the poor man or woman who commits a trespass; a single Justice of the Peace takes the place of Judge and Jury; he orders what damages he pleases to be paid (under five pounds); and if the trespasser has not money to pay, he may send him, or her, *to gaol and to hard labour*; and all this he may do *upon the bare order of the plaintiff*; and that plaintiff, or any body authorized by him, may *seize the trespasser without any warrant*, and drag him, or her, away to the Justice of the Peace! But (and let the *people* bear it in mind), if it be a *great trespasser* if the damage be more than five pounds, then the sufferer, though he may be a poor man, must bring his *action at law*! He *cannot seize on the great trespasser*!

After this, it is farcical to talk of *equal laws*: a despicable farce; and I despise the man who affects to believe that the THING can

be *mended*, which has given rise to a change like this. There are persons enough to say, that this change of the law *was necessary*; for that there must be such power to snap hold of the common people *without warrant*, and to punish them *without judge or jury*; or, they would, now-a-days, prowl about people's premises, and take the eyes out of the owners' heads. Indeed! "*Waust improvements*," then, by the means of schools and Bible societies! So, in order to *keep pace* with what you, and Mr. Canning, and Mr. Huskisson, and Mr. Robinson, call the "*improvements of the age*," in order to keep pace with these "*waust improvements*," the rich are authorized to catch the poor by the throat, without a warrant, and drag them before a Justice of the Peace, who is to act the part of judge and jury, and to lay what damages he pleases, or send the poor to gaol and hard labour, and that, too, if he choose, upon the *sole evidence of the rich plaintiff*. But, in order again to keep pace with the "*waust improvements*," the poor are not to do these things to the rich! And yet there are people to *complain* of the *rude behaviour* of the common people, their *want of respect for their superiors*; in short, their *hatred of the*

rich. Complain of this! Is not such hatred natural? Is it not well merited? Can any man of just mind fail to applaud this hatred? Did one single rich man ever utter a syllable against this dreadful, this odious, change in the laws of England? Ah! you may think that there will be *no end* to this system; but you are deceived! And, remember that I tell you that you are deceived.

My answer to all those who contend for the necessity of this new-trespass law is this: *that no such law was necessary for more than a thousand years.* That is my answer. You, Sir, talk of the "*improvements of the age*;" and these, it seems, demand this horrid change in the laws of England; these "*improvements*" have made the people, in "*the land of bibles*" (as Liverpool called it), such thieves, that every proprietor of house, land, road, river, or tree, is now authorized to snap hold of the Bible-readers without a warrant, and the justice, on oath of the plaintiff alone, is to punish them, out-right, without judge or jury. Mr. ROBINSON boasted, only a few days ago, of the "*improved education of the people.*" So vastly improved, that it is necessary now to dispense with the use of warrants in seizing them

even for the slightest trespass! So vastly improved, that it is now become necessary to punish them for trespass without judge or jury; in some cases, to transport them without judge or jury; and in others, so *well educated* are they, so full of the "*improvements of the age*," that it is necessary to *banish them for life*, if they utter any thing having a tendency to bring their "*representatives*" into contempt; and, which fully corroborates this doctrine, PLUNKET, the intense and illustrious PLUNKET, gave as a reason for this banishment-for-life-Bill, that the people now *read much more than they used to do!* So that, while we see, that you and your colleagues are constantly hardening the laws, while you are boasting of the improvement in the minds of the people, here we have this intense man; here we have him, distinctly, and seemingly, gladly declaring, that the circumstance of the people being in the habit of *reading more than formerly*, calls for a hardening of the law with regard to them!

In order to add, if possible, to the contempt which our present state is calculated to excite, we are become what is called *refined, polished, and of delicate taste*, in just the same degree, that we

have become educated and enslaved. This "refinement" has, too, brought its Acts of Parliament, and particularly that famous act, which provides, in so extraordinary and summary a way for punishing people for what is called an "*exposure of their persons*." This Act, joined with the new-trespass Act, might produce a dilemma, from which it would be next to impossible for a man, taken with cholera morbus, as going along a well-travelled turnpike road, to escape without the commission of crime; for, if he stopped by the road-side, he would be guilty of crime as an *exposer of his person*; if he stepped over the gate, he would violate the *new-trespass law*; in either case he might be instantly, *without any warrant*, dragged before a single justice, and sent to prison. His only means of escaping the commission of crime would be to go on his way, carrying the consequences with him; and, even then, I am by no means certain, that Mr. LEWIS's very delicate Road-Act would not enable the surveyor to indict him, or even seize him, for the nuisance!

Still, however, this minute superintendence on our persons; this incessant watching of us; this scrupulous "*surveillance*," as

the French call it, has not been thought sufficient, and, accordingly now has come your new Criminal-law Bill, which, as I described it at the *Fest of the Gridiron*, is

more nor less than a system for rewarding, for paying money to, one part of a neighbourhood, for detecting crime in another part of it. It is a great sweep at the laws of England, one of the main pillars of which is, the principle, that no man shall be a witness who has an interest in the result. But, ought not crimes to be detected when they are committed; and ought not criminals to be apprehended? Yes, unless the means of detection and apprehension be more injurious to morals and to freedom, than occasional escape would be. As to the public defraying the expenses of prosecutions, let it be observed, that, in fixing the degree of punishments, the law had in its eye the expenses of the prosecution, and calculated, that, where the case was not grave, the offender would not be prosecuted. Therefore, if you encourage and pay prosecutors, you do, in effect, harden the criminal law. And, then, in answer to your plea of necessity, set up in support of this great innovation, comes this question: *how was it that no such*

necessity existed for a thousand years? Answer that, Sir: tell us how it happened, that England was so great and so good and so happy for so many ages without any man ever suggesting any such change in her laws as this? Indeed they would like it; and as to the greater part of the land-lords, here would be an effectual and cheap guard for their *pheasants* and *hares*; and they would like it too; and thus would the system have produced *all its fruits*.

But, even this will not do. You cannot stop here, if the present system go on. There have already been several publications recommending the adoption of the French system of "*public prosecutors*," or "*procureurs du Roi*," stationed all over the country; and, as we have long witnessed, these things drop in upon us *by degrees*. With the *public prosecutor* would come the *gens d'armes*; that is to say, *soldiers stationed in every village*, as they are in France. Already the *mounted police*, stretching out from great town to great town, extend over no inconsiderable part of the country. One more step brings us to the *gens d'armes*; and then we shall be, indeed, "the envy of surrounding nations and admiration of the world!"

Far would even this be from meeting with opposition amongst those who live on the taxes, and who care for nothing but *quiet enjoyment* of those taxes. The sight of a *gens d'armes* would not be at all offensive to them. There is, however, one thing that may be, and that I think will be, an obstacle to this result; namely, the blowing up of the system from the means within itself. No doubt the revenue can be collected to the present, or nearly the present, amount, though no relaxation in favour of fresh issues of paper take place; but in this case *rents* and revenue cannot *both* be collected. The landlords will wish for a great reduction of taxes, or for a return to bales of paper-money. It appears now impossible for the Government to return to the bales of paper-money, or, in other words, to *bank-restriction*. After what has passed, this would be an infamy too great for any men to bring upon themselves. And, as to *greatly reducing the taxes*, that cannot be done without *lopping off a great part of the debt*. That never can be done without taking away the whole of the sinecures and pensions, discharging the army and dead-weight; and ap-

plying part of that public property, commonly called Church Property, in order to make up the losses of the fundholders.

This being the case, and landlords being so deeply interested in the sinecures, pensions, and places in army and elsewhere, and also in what is called Church Property, they themselves will be very, very slow to urge any reduction of the interest of the debt. They know that this never could be attempted without the taking away of what they now divide snugly amongst them; and yet, if all the present taxes be paid in gold, they must lose their estates. They will suffer long. They will keep *hoping* on; but at last, even the richest of them will find, that they must finally be beggars. They will then attempt to make resistance; and this attempt may produce a *total blowing up of the system*. If the Government persevere in the taxing and funding system, I think it will prevail; for it will certainly have the *numbers* with it; and, in this case, the *revenue* can be and will be collected till all idea of *rent* shall have been abandoned. The farmer will become a sort of bailiff to those who receive the taxes, instead of that post being in the hands of the landlord, who now di-

vides it with the tax-gatherer. The working people *are down*: they can fall *no lower*: they will still consume as much as they do now; and the receivers of taxes will have to consume that which the landlords now consume. As your father says, it will be "*taken from ourselves to be given to ourselves*," and thus the matter "*will resolve itself into a family account*"! There will be only this in it, that *one part* of the family will have that which is now possessed by *another part* of the family. The tax-eaters and their wives and daughters will keep what they have, and will have *in addition* the houses, gardens, carriages, horses, silks, jewels and wines, that the landlords and their wives and daughters now have; and the servants and dependants and work-people of the tax-receivers will consume the meat and drink, and clothing and groceries, and all the other things which are now consumed by the servants, dependants and work-people of the landlords.

Whether, amidst the struggles that this transfer may give rise to, a something may take place, that will *let in a reform*, I cannot say; but if nothing of that sort should arise, this country will, in all human probability, sink down as

low as it stood high in the reign of Edward the Third, when WYKHAM founded his colleges, and when the coast of France was the out-work of England.

Such has been the progress of the THING, made up of loans, banks, and paper-money. To mend this THING is absolutely impossible. To take it quietly to pieces, without any injury to the ancient constitution of the country, would not be impossible, but easy, if set about in earnest; but every attempt must prove abortive, unless accompanied by a reform of the Parliament, a reform founded on that great principle of English law, *that no man ought to be taxed without his own consent.*

WM. COBBETT.

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### DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

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AMONGST the charms of this THING of ours is the surprising variety that it gives us, together with that everlasting uncertainty, which attends all its movements and effects. That "variety is charming" is a saying as old as the hills; and, in the affairs of love, the most exquisite of all human passions, it is the uncertainty of the lover that points the charm.

Experience has taught countless millions that marriage, though certainly a very delightful thing, brings us days less enchanting than those of courtship; the reason of this is, that, when the priest has performed his office, when to have and to hold has once been pronounced, the uncertainty ceases. Our THING keeps us from the moment of our birth, from the squall of the cradle to the groan of the death-bed, constantly in a state of uncertainty. Every vernal equinox brings us new and never-before-thought-of laws. We know not, at Christmas, what will be the value of our money at Easter. This year, we have a surplus of food, while we pay our money to cause the mouths to emigrate to countries where the land is to be cleared before the emigrants can raise food. Next year, we have a surplus of mouths, accompanied with a law to prevent food from being brought into the country; and, in order to make the variety as exquisite as possible, we are actually expending money for the avowed purpose of preventing the Scotch from quitting the barren Highlands of their country, at the very moment that we are expending other sums to induce the Irish to quit the fertile lands of their country. We hold it to be

a self-evident truth, that to educate the people must, necessarily, make them more honest and dutiful; and, just in proportion as we increase the number and size of the school-houses, we go on increasing the number and size of the gaols. We boast of the liberality of our age, and laugh at the barbarous customs of our forefathers; while we whip and imprison the heedless boy that straggles across a field, and we make him a felon if he take an apple from a tree, without the consent of the owner. We are become the most refined, the most sentimental, the most tender-hearted creatures in the world: we are shocked to death even at hearing of dog-fights and bull-baits and bear-baits. We regulate by statute the degree of force which the drover is to give to his goad, and which the coachman is to give to his whip: and, to give us variety, we have magistrates to allow three-pence a day for the maintenance of a labouring man; we have others to order men to be harnessed to draw carts like horses; and we have seen, without, apparently, feeling the smallest degree of horror, a man shot and killed, from being taken for a fellow lurking in a strubbery; in short, and to sum up the whole in one fact,

we have seen whole parishes receiving the extreme unction, as a preparation for death, by starvation, while a jolly soldiery and their horses were maintained on the same spot; and while another part of the kingdom was, if the Prime Minister spoke truth, plunged into distress, by an over production of food!

But, of all the numerous qualities of that **THING**, which is the envy of surrounding nations, and the admiration of the world, the *uncertainty of its movements*, is assuredly, the most admirable; and, amongst these movements, none are more uncertain than those which relate to *dissolutions of the Parliament*. Other nations, who have legislative bodies, have fixed periods for elections and dissolutions; for meeting and for proroguing. Ours is just the contrary; no man knows when or wherefore either of these is to take place. I myself have seen Parliaments of all lengths of duration, from six years and a half to thirteen months; and as a Parliament did once, when elected by positive law for three years, enact that it would sit for seven years, why should I not see a Parliament, chosen by law for seven years, enact that it would sit for a hundred?

Mr. CANNING, who is the great

opponent of all change in *this* system, while he is the foremost to ridicule an adherence to ancient maxims in every thing else, asserts, that the "**THING** works well." At least, he did assert this; will he assert it now? I dare say he will; for well, indeed, it works for him, and for others situated like him. But, how it works for the nation, let those say who are driven to eat horse-flesh and draff, and who steal sea-weed to eat, which has been spread upon the fields for manure. However, on the **THING** works, and on it will work, as fast as it can.

Few persons have been less the sport of the uncertain movements of the **THING** than I have been. I have always known pretty well what would be the final consequences of those movements; and I have as generally cared as little as man could care about those movements themselves. NOW, however, these movements affect even me; for the movements of the **THING** may probably cause a postponement of my intended rural excursion. It is pretty generally rumoured, that the Parliament will be dissolved early in June. If this should be the case, I must remain here, or, at least, must abstain from performing my ride until the election be over. In

all probability, we shall be kept as much in the dark as possible, until it becomes absolutely necessary to divulge the secret, which, at any rate, must not overtake me upon my ride. Thus stands the matter at present, and all those who intend to subscribe towards defraying the expenses attending an attempt to return me to Parliament, will, doubtless, *lose no time* in carrying their intentions into effect, by sending their subscriptions to Sir Thomas Beevor, addressed to him at his own home, Hargham, near Attleborough, Norfolk; or addressed to him, No. 188, Fleet-street, London. He will be in town on the First of May, to sum up his receipts, and to publish his report, for the information of the subscribers.

In the meanwhile it is proper for me to notice a report which has been circulated in many of the newspapers, that I have been canvassing, or that it has been settled that I shall offer myself for the borough of NEWARK. I have not canvassed the borough of Newark: I really know not in what county it is. I have had a letter from NEWARK, but not of that stamp that would call upon me to think seriously of the matter. The truth is, I can fix upon nothing, without previously con-



sulting the Committee; and, even after that has been done, it is possible that we may not have the means to make any attempt, which would not manifestly be labour in vain.

One thing I will venture to pledge myself for; and that is, that I will be returned, if at all, by no corrupt and infamous means. One single farthing of the money shall not, with my consent, be given to bribe or corrupt any human being. If chosen, therefore, I must be chosen by men who choose me for the good of the country, and not for their own profit. It must be for some place where some considerable number of the people have something to say in the matter. There have been rumours, and pretty widely-circulated, of my intention to stand for a place more conveniently situated in point of *locality*, and even to *attempt* which, would certainly be more honourable than to succeed in almost any other place. As to these rumours, it is not for me to say, just at present, whether they have any foundation or not. Certain it is, that if I have life and health, my friends shall be convinced that, in this case, as well as in so many others, I am not deficient in industry, zeal, and perseverance. I

am well aware of the numerous obstacles and difficulties; but, having so frequently urged others to endeavour, at least, to overcome such, it would be a shame, indeed, if I were not ready to practise what I preach. I am determined, if possible, to make an open and solemn appeal to the people. If I find them so completely cowed down; if I find their ancient spirit so completely extinguished; if I find that they can bear even their present sufferings, without a desire within them, to remove those sufferings, strong enough to urge them to exertion, I shall be greatly mortified; I shall deeply lament the fallen state of my country; but, having done my duty, I shall enjoy in perfect tranquillity, the same sort of life that I have, thank God, enjoyed for so many years heretofore, without the smallest relaxation in my efforts, to change, if possible, the system which has brought this country, once so happy, to be the most miserable upon the face of the earth.

I regard this as no very great effort; and above all things, not one, the failure of which ought to produce disgust or disheartening. When I compare my situation, in the eyes of the public, with my situation *only five years ago*, am

I to be disheartened by *anything*? When I reflect on the abuse, the opprobrium, the scorn through which I maintained my ground, till I saw the day when the correctness of my opinions were verified by events, and recognized by the acts of the Ministers themselves; and when I reflect, that it is fear of my talents and my integrity, and that all the world will be convinced that it is nothing else that will cause me to fail, if fail I should, am I a man to pout and sulk and retire, at the loss of an election? Am I a man, beholding as I do, the *events which are now fast treading upon the heels of each other*; am I a man, beholding these things, having all the materials for calculation so plainly before me; am I a man to fly off in a huff, and reject the apple because I am not permitted to take it by the tail? No such a thing; but I must act, in my usual course, as if every thing depended upon this; and besides this, I should not deal fairly with the people, if, having sufficient means just at my disposal, I did not give some part of them, at least, an opportunity of proving to the world, that they are animated by a desire to serve and save their country. Again I say, that this is only *one* effort, in addition to that

which was made before, and even that would have succeeded had it not been for base and treacherous "*friends*," who would *now* gladly exchange situations with me. This is only *one* effort of many which are, probably, to succeed it; but I predict, and upon another Gridiron pledge I predict it, that in the Parliament I shall be, first or last; and that I am destined to have a hand in the changing of a system which has so long been a scourge to the country. I am satisfied that, as far as my own fame is concerned, the failure at Coventry was fortunate. In all human probability the progress of the THING, uninterrupted by me, would bring me greater reputation than I could acquire by arresting that progress. Being of this opinion, I have, many times, hesitated as to whether I should now make the effort or not. But, a desire to mitigate, at least, the sufferings of the people, has prevailed, at last, over every other consideration, and has induced me to endeavour to obtain the means to make the attempt now.

Thus stands the matter, at present. In a short time, the public must be informed of the place chosen for the trial; and, in the mean time, they may be assured,

that, if made at all (of which I have not the least doubt), it shall be made openly, and in a manner worthy of the conduct of my whole life.

### ALDERNEY COWS.

IN answer to many Gentlemen, who have written to me on this subject, I have to say, that, having written to MR. JAMES ROBERTS for information, he has informed me, that he has now a considerable number of Cows, imported since January; that he sends them to any part of the country, and has sent them as far as the northern part of Cheshire; that he will warrant the goodness of all he sends; and that the price, and all other circumstances, may be known by application to him, at ABBOTSTON, near ALRESFORD, HAMPSHIRE. It is no more than justice for me to observe, that more than a dozen of persons, who have had Cows from MR. ROBERTS, have, either verbally or by letter, thanked me for my advice and recommendation. Two particular friends of mine, one near London and the other at Wakefield in Yorkshire, wish to have a Cow each now. They will write to Mr. Roberts, perhaps; but, if they should not, I shall be obliged to him to let me know when he is, about to send Cows in those directions.—My

own little Cow, which is, I now find *eleven years old* (I got her in 1821,) calved, as usual, in January. I had, at the time, a Cow waiting here for a friend, and we got milk from her till my calf was *three weeks old*, when it weighed *seventy-three pounds*, at a season when veal was very dear. She now gives me from fourteen to sixteen quarts of milk a day. Her food consists of hay, bran, my grains now-and-then, and cabbage and broccoli leaves from the garden. A *third* part of her food comes from the garden all the year round. I think she may cost me *seven shillings* a week, and her milk, at fourpence a quart, is worth 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* a week. Some part we sell to two neighbours (amounting to 6*s.* 5*d.* a week now;) but we use the main part, and have the skim-milk for pigs, or dogs and cats. Surprising, that any man who has a yard 20 feet square, should not keep one of these pretty gentle little creatures! And still more surprising, if he have any thing of a garden! But, milking *regularly* and *clean* is absolutely necessary. If the master and mistress do not get up by six o'clock, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, and at day-light, or soon after, the rest of the year, they would do well to deal in chalk and water, and not keep a

## SHERIFF'S COURT.

*Thursday Morning.*

THE newspapers have a *report*, and a very good one, of a transaction, in which I was engaged yesterday, in this court; but, the subject being of great *public* importance, I shall revert to it in my next. I was by no means sorry, that the action was brought against me; and, though the result of it is, of course, pleasing to me, having saved me from an unjust charge of £8.7; I value the good to the public at a much higher rate.

## FEAST AT BOLTON.

I am very happy to hear that the worthy men who kept the Feast of the Gridiron at Bolton, in Lancashire, were totally ignorant of the infamy of Carlile, the tool of an execrable wretch in London, who is probably, and most likely, the tool of other execrable wretches, that must finally be dragged forth to light. I shall notice this proceeding, at Bolton, more fully in my next.

## THE 'ASS OF HEREFORD.

It is thought that birds sing the loudest when in a cage, and, for a similar physical reason, asses may bray loudest when in POUND. If this should be so, God preserve the hearing faculties, say I, of the people of Hereford! For; their ass is at this moment impounded, whether for straying or for trespass, I know not; but impounded he is, and perhaps clogged into the bargain! A very independent gentleman, to be sure, especially when we find that he was actually receiving fodder at the mere mercy of a Hereford Banker. I said, many months ago, that three-fourths of these newspaper fellows in the country upheld the rag-rooks, because they were in debt with the rooks. In short, they lived from day to day by the fraudulent system. They knew that, if the system failed, they should be impounded as their poor brother of Hereford has been. Suppose it should turn out that the Hereford INDEPENDENT has been, for these last six months, mortgaged to a rag-rook. This would not surprise me; for, as I have often said, these "*Independents*" are the most slavish band of knaves that exist.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN through-  
out ENGLAND, for the week end-  
ing April 8.

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	58	6	Rye ....	36	7
Barley ..	31	10	Beans ...	35	5
Oats ....	23	4	Pease ...	37	11

Total Quantity of Corn returned as  
Sold in the Maritime Districts, for  
the Week ended April 8.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	41,648	Rye ....	305
Barley ..	22,039	Beans ...	3,235
Oats ...	32,195	Pease ...	736

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

Quantities and Prices of British  
Corn, &c. sold and delivered in  
this Market, during the week ended  
Saturday, April 8.

	Qrs.		s.	d.
Wheat .	5,036	.. Average	61	11
Barley .	4,669	.. —	34	2
Oats .	10,767	.. —	26	9
Rye .	57	.. —	31	7
Beans .	984	.. —	36	11
Pease .	231	.. —	39	2

Friday, April 14.—There are mo-  
derate supplies of Grain this week,  
and the market to-day has been thinly  
attended with buyers. Wheat, with  
difficulty, maintains Monday's prices.  
In Barley, Beans, and Pease, there is  
no alteration. Oats find a slow sale  
at the terms last quoted.

Monday, April 17.—The arrivals  
of all sorts of Grain last week were  
moderate, with a fair quantity of  
Flour. This morning there was a  
good fresh supply of Wheat and Bar-  
ley from Kent, but from Essex and  
Suffolk the quantities were not large.  
A few more vessels have arrived from  
the North with Oats. At the com-  
mencement of the market, more  
money was demanded for the best  
samples of Wheat; our Millers,  
however, manifested great reluctance  
in purchasing, and the prices may  
be reported much the same as on this  
day se'nnight, with a dull sale for all  
but superfine parcels.

The trade for Malting Barley has  
become excessively dull, and may be  
stated full 2s. per quarter lower than  
on Monday last: other kinds met a  
heavy sale, but at a less reduction.  
Beans rather dearer. Pease were un-  
altered. There has been a slow  
trade for Oats, but prices remain  
as last quoted. Much uncertainty  
exists as to the top price of Flour,  
some quoting it at 55s., and others at  
60s. per sack.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack	.....	53s. — 55s.
— Seconds	.....	48s. — 50s.
— North Country	..	42s. — 46s.

Price of Bread.—The price of the  
4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the  
full-priced Bakers.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from April 10 to April 15, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	4,730	Tares ....	170
Barley ..	4,849	Linseed ..	—
Malt....	4,472	Rapeseed..	—
Oats ....	13,436	Brank ..	—
Beans ...	935	Mustard..	—
Flour....	7,546	Flax ....	—
Rye ....	—	Hemp ....	—
Pease....	274	Seeds ....	—

Foreign.—Wheat 540, Oats 260, Beans 410 quarters.

Monday, April 17.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 327 firkins of Butter, and 471 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports 7,949 casks of Butter.

### HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, April 17.—There is more doing in Hops, principally in 1824's and 1825's, upon which a small advance has been obtained. Several large lots of Old have been taken off the market, as the present rates offer an inducement to the speculators.

Maidstone, April 13.—There has been a little more doing this week in the Hop trade, and in consequence rather better prices have been made, but principally on the pockets of last year's growth. The bines do not appear at present to come as well as expected, and in some grounds the flea is increasing.

Worcester, April 12.—On Saturday 122 pockets were weighed; no material variation in price.

City, 19th April, 1826.

### BACON.

The stock on hand is not heavy, but the want of credit will probably prevent any material advance. On board, 48s. to 50s.; Landed, 52s.

### BUTTER.

The necessity of heavy stocks constantly on hand, to meet the demands for the consumption of London, and the places supplied by London; and the perishable nature of this article, make an almost certain loss to those who hold at this time of the year. Accordingly we find, that at this time there is a great quantity in the warehouses, especially Foreign, which will, probably, lose more than half of the original cost. Best Dutch, 98s. to 100s.; New Holstein, 80s. to 84s. Inferior kinds and qualities nominal.

### CHEESE.

There is very little doing, and prices are nominal.

A mercantile firm, of respectability and long-standing, has stopped payment. This firm has an establishment in Ireland, where it carried on an extensive shipping business.

### SMITHFIELD, Monday, April 17.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	8	to	4 8
Mutton ...	4	6	—	5 2
Veal .....	6	6	—	7 0
Pork .....	5	0	—	6 0
Lamb .....	6	4	—	7 4

Beasts ... 2,198 | Sheep ... 11,710  
Calves ... 138 | Pigs ... 140

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	0	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 2
Veal ....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	4	0	—	6 0
Lamb .....	5	4	—	7 0

### COAL MARKET, April 14.

Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.

53½ Newcastle.. 38½ 28s. 0d. to 36s. 6d.  
10 Sunderland.. 7½ 26s. 6d.—37s. 6d.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 10	to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 10	—	2 15
Chats .....	2 10	—	0 0
Common Red. .	0 0	—	0 0
Onions, Os. Oz. — Os. Oz.	per bush.		

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 0	to	6 0
Middlings.....	2 0	—	3 0
Chats .....	1 10	—	2 10
Common Red. .	0 0	—	0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....	70s. to 90s.
Straw....	36s. to 42s.
Clover..	85s. to 110s.
St. James's.—Hay....	60s. to 85s.
Straw ..	27s. to 46s.
Clover ..	80s. to 102s.
Whitechapel.—Hay....	66s. to 90s.
Straw....	36s. to 42s.
Clover..	86s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s. to	s. d.	s. to	s. d.	s. to	s. d.	s. to	s. d.	s. to	s. d.
Aylesbury .....	56	64 0	35	39 0	29	32 0	39	44 0	45	0 0
Banbury .....	64	70 0	33	36 0	24	30 0	40	48 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke .....	53	70 0	30	34 0	23	27 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Bridport .....	54	62 0	30	0 0	22	25 0	48	0 0	0	0 0
Chalmersford.....	56	72 0	30	36 0	26	32 0	32	34 0	30	50 0
Derby .....	67	74 0	28	37 0	24	28 0	38	44 0	0	0 0
Devizes.....	52	68 0	30	37 0	26	32 0	44	52 0	0	0 0
Dorchester.....	50	64 0	27	32 0	23	27 0	48	50 0	0	0 0
Exeter.....	66	76 0	41	44 0	23	28 0	28	32 0	0	0 0
Eye .....	57	68 0	28	32 0	25	30 0	34	38 0	36	40 0
Guildford.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley .....	60	77 0	29	38 0	24	30 0	45	53 0	46	52 0
Horncastle.....	58	62 0	30	32 0	20	24 0	35	38 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	52	70 0	24	33 0	20	30 0	41	56 0	0	0 0
Lewes.....	54	66 0	0	0 0	23	28 0	40	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury .....	42	76 0	29	34 0	22	30 0	42	48 0	44	48 0
Northampton.....	56	64 0	30	35 0	22	32 0	35	42 0	0	0 0
Nottingham .....	62	0 0	32	0 0	26	0 0	41	0 0	0	0 0
Reading .....	64	78 0	28	38 0	20	36 0	44	50 0	43	50 0
Stamford.....	50	64 0	28	33 0	20	25 0	37	38 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket .....	52	66 0	25	32 0	23	27 0	31	0 0	0	0 0
Swansea .....	62	0 0	36	0 0	20	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro .....	63	0 0	32	0 0	28	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warminster.....	52	64 0	27	37 0	24	27 0	40	62 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	60	0 0	32	0 0	25	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith * .....	29	33 6	23	28 0	18	23 6	18	20 0	17	19 0
Haddington* .....	27	33 0	23	29 0	15	21 6	15	18 6	15	18 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

**Liverpool**, April 11.—The winds have been favourable during the last week for arrivals from Ireland, yet the importations of Wheat, Flour, and Oats, were but moderate, and the demand for these articles more languid than that of the preceding week; in consequence, Wheat receded in value 3d. to 4d. per 70lbs; Flour 1s. per 280lbs., and Oatmeal 1s. per 240lbs. Other articles have partaken of this day's market, which was but thinly attended, and not much business done.

Imported into Liverpool from the 4th to the 10th of April, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 5,825; Barley, 2,273; Oats, 9,769; Malt, 2,049; Beans, 315, and Pease, 180 quarters. Flour, 3,028 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 1,086 packs, per 240 lbs.

**Norwich**, April 15.—We had a large supply of Wheat to this day's market, and the demand being equal to it, Red sold from 54s. to 62s.; White to 64s.; Barley was 2s. per quarter lower than last week; prices from 23s. to 30s.; Oats 22s. to 29s.; Beans 32s. to 38s.; Pease 34s. to 40s. per quarter; and Flour, 45s. to 46s. per sack.

**Bristol**, April 15.—The prices of Corn, &c. in the Corn Markets at this place, continue very steady this week. Supplies rather moderate. Present prices are:—Wheat, from 5s. to 8s.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 9d.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 4½d.; Beans, 3s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.; and Malt, 5s. to 7s. 3d. per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 47s. per bag.

**Ipswich**, April 15.—Our market to-day was very thinly supplied with all Grain. Prices:—Wheat 56s. to 64s.; Barley, 31s. to 43s.; Beans, 38s. to 39s.; and Pease, 38s. per quarter.

**Wisbeck**, April 15.—Wheat, Oats, and Beans, were taken off freely at last week's prices.—Red Wheat, 54s. to 60s.; White ditto, 60s. to 62s.; Oats, 20s. to 24s.; and Beans, 34s. to 38s. per imperial qr.

**Wakefield**, April 14.—The supply of Wheat this morning is large, and the millers having bought rather freely of late, the trade has been heavy to-day at a decline of 1s. per quarter upon good dry samples. Oats and Shelling are not plentiful, and as there is more than the usual demand for them at present, they fully support the last quotations. There is a large arrival of Barley, and although the weather is quite cool, the Malt trade is so excessively dull, that this article has met a very heavy sale at a reduction of 1s. per quarter upon the best sorts, and more upon second qualities. In Beans no alteration. There is nothing doing in Rapeseed.

**Manchester**, April 15.—Our market has been very flat to-day for any thing except prime parcels of Grain and Flour. Prices may be quoted rather lower than this day week.

**Newcastle-on-Tyne**, April 15.—We had again a large supply of Wheat from the farmers, and the sale was dull. No alteration in the price of Rye. Several cargoes of Barley have arrived during the week, and prices have declined 2s. per quarter. Malt very dull sale. We had a good supply of Oats, which sold very readily. The weather has been cold all this week, but it is not considered unfavourable for the growing crops.—Wheat, new, 52s. to 61s.; Foreign, 48s. to 54s.; Rye, 42s. to 44s.; Foreign, 32s. to 36s.; Barley, 30s. to 32s.; Foreign, 25s. to 30s.; Malt, 52s. to 59s.; Oats, 21s. to 26s.; Foreign, 19s. to 21s.; Beans, 42s. to 46s.; Pease, White, 48s. to 54s. per quarter, Imperial measure. Flour, 45s. per sack.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, April 15.—The supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was very large, and the prices from 6s. 3d. to near 7s. per 14lbs., but many lots remained unsold: we had also a large supply of Store Stock, the Scots were not of superior quality, those few sold were at 4s. per stone when fat; we had also some lots of good Short Horns, the best of them sold at 3s. 6d. per stone. Cows and Calves are selling better than they have lately. One and two-years old Homebreds are not very saleable. Horses, of both Riding and the Cart kind, are selling a little more freely: there was also a large quantity of Sheep penned, and the sale but slow. Shearlings sold from 28s. to 34s.; fat ones, to 45s.; Hoggets from 20s. to 28s.; and those nearly fat, 34s.; Ewes and Lambs from 34s. to 41s. per couple. Pigs selling very cheap; fat ones to 6s. 6d. per stone.

*Horncastle*, April 15.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Pork, 5½d. to 6½d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, there was a great supply of Cattle, which met with dull sale, at a reduction in price. There were a good many Sheep, which sold readily at last week's prices.—Beef, from 5s. 9d. to 6s. 6d.; and Mutton, 7s. to 8s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended April 8, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	62	0	33	9	25	4
Essex	60	1	33	3	25	11
Kent	63	0	33	10	25	6
Sussex	56	0	31	7	25	1
Suffolk	56	2	32	0	26	1
Cambridgeshire	53	5	30	0	20	10
Norfolk	55	6	29	4	26	9
Lincolnshire	58	10	30	2	20	3
Yorkshire	58	7	30	2	21	0
Durham	58	9	32	0	26	7
Northumberland	55	0	32	4	25	0
Cumberland	62	6	31	5	22	8
Westmoreland	65	0	40	0	24	1
Lancashire	63	8	0	0	25	8
Cheshire	61	6	40	0	24	7
Gloucestershire	61	9	35	7	24	2
Somersetshire	60	0	32	10	21	1
Monmouthshire	57	2	36	1	23	6
Devonshire	58	10	31	9	22	8
Cornwall	60	0	30	1	24	9
Dorsetshire	57	10	30	3	25	0
Hampshire	57	4	31	8	24	9
North Wales	62	1	34	9	20	10
South Wales	54	9	28	7	17	3

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.



"The envy of surrounding Nations and admiration of the World."

16. "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of this tree?"

17. "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit."

18. "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."

MATTHEW, Chapter vii.

# DEPLORABLE WRETCHEDNESS OF THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND, IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.

Kensington,  
Thursday, 27th April, 1826.

AN accidental circumstance, and of a nature uncontrollable, has put it out of my power to write any thing for the Register this week, beyond this sort of Preface, to articles which, chiefly, I have taken from other publications. These articles relate to subjects of very great importance, and particularly the first of them; namely, those which relate to the perishing situation of this industrious people. I shall insert the articles without any commentary of my own, for which commentary I have not the time; and, if I had the time, I should be afraid to trust my pen

under the direction of those feelings which not to have, would argue a callousness of heart that ought to make any man ashamed of his existence. Here are the *fruits of the tree*; the natural fruits of the system "that works so well"! I say it, for the fiftieth time, that, if I did not believe there to be reasonable ground of hope, that I have the ability to assist in bettering the lot of this wretched people, I would instantly, and, at all hazards, abandon this kingdom for ever; I would not make one of a community, where some of the people have half a meal of potatoes in a day; where others are eating "horse-flesh and druff";

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

where others are pursuing the cats for food; where others, as we have it under the hand of a Clergyman of the Church of England, are **STEALING CARRION**, in order to preserve themselves from actual death by starvation: not one hour would I make one of a community, where the people are thus impoverished, degraded, and starved, did I not entertain what I deem a reasonable hope, of being able to assist others in effecting some change for the benefit of these unhappy sufferers.

I now proceed to insert the articles, amongst which the reader will perceive a **POLICE REPORT**, whence, it would seem, (if the Report be correct) that there is actually some Parliamentary measure going on, to cause people **TO BE TRANSPORTED** beyond the seas, for no other reason but that they **ARE CHARGEABLE TO THE PARISH!** Merciful God, and as England, is the "Envy of surrounding nations, and admiration of the world" come to this at last!

Yet, if this system go on, far, indeed, are we from yet beholding the worst; far, very far, indeed, are we from beholding the acme of that misery, which, as I have always said, this system has in reserve for a people, once the best fed, best clothed, and most free upon the face of the earth; and still deserving to be the best fed, best clothed, and most free. Intelligence from Lancashire, on which I can place confident reliance, says that the people in several parts of that County, **ARE EATING THE CATS**; and this, too, observe in about eight months only since the rubrical

thanksgiving for times of plenty was read in the churches; and when corn and meat are at a much lower price than they were last year. Oh horrible system! Horror of all horrors, that can cause actual starvation of thousands in the midst of plenty!

I have no time for anything more, but just to beg my readers to go through all the following articles with the greatest possible attention. Some of the people; a small part of the people, at any rate, will soon have an opportunity of making an effort to return men to Parliament, who are likely to do their best to change this horrible system. This remark addresses itself **PARTICULARLY TO THE PEOPLE OF WESTMINSTER**. If they be afforded the opportunity, they have the power completely in their hands. As to their having the opportunity tendered them, I cannot speak positively till next week, when I shall, I suspect, speak positively enough upon the subject. Even now I cannot forbear saying, that it were a shame, indeed, if the people of Westminster, who were formerly so justly looked up to by every part of the Country where the wretched people stood in need of support; it were a shame, indeed, if the people, the really enlightened people, the sensible and spirited people of this noble City, were, at a time like this, to suffer themselves to be made tools of by a miserable rump of intriguers; and were, in fact, to become even more despicable (because they have no excuses to allege) than the starving slaves of a rotten Borough.

W. M. COBBETT.

(From the *Cork Mercantile Chronicle*, 21st April, 1826.)

# DISTRESS IN THE COUNTY OF CORK.

Our Correspondents continue to send us bad tidings from the West. All we can do is to lay their communications before the public. If the facts which they narrate do not speak to the feelings of the "natural protectors," no representations on our part will. The Petition of *Daniel Driscoll* shall go to *William Cobbett*. We shall look to that. Gracious heaven! what a state of society! Last evening a Gentleman intimately acquainted with the state of this city, told us that it was his firm belief, from personal knowledge, that in the North Parish there were eighteen hundred individuals who had not more than one meal in the forty-eight hours, and to whom even a bed of *soot* would be a luxury.

To the Editor of the *Cork Mercantile Chronicle*.

Sir, *Clonakilty, April 18.*

We are become desperate—we know not what to do, or what to think—we have not one moment's comfort—we cannot stir one step without seeing starving faces, and if we don't see them, we are certain that such is their situation. Our paltry Relief Fund is exhausted; and yesterday a publication was posted up to hundreds of unfortunate creatures, that no further relief was to be extended to them. Is this state of things to be borne? are our gentry to enjoy silently their luxuries, while their fellow-creatures are famishing? It is sickening to see most of the members of this Relief Committee well-dressed, well-fed with all

the comforts, and even luxuries of life, say, *it is very injudicious to deal out gratuitous relief*. These poor weavers don't want to be idle; but when these prosing gentlemen don't find work for them, are they to famish? Why do not the Clergy, with all their thousands, why do they not come forward and do something for us? why do not those great Landholders, who have not yet given one farthing to the distressed?

For the last four or five weeks the allowance from the Relief Fund gave a meal a day, and they were satisfied just to wait till trade revived. A Petition to Government was prepared, and, I fear, never forwarded, there were so many corrections and amendments. And yet the case was simple—nothing more was necessary than to say, "*We, the poor weavers of Clonakilty, are starving, and implore you to do something for us.*"

This morning I am informed that a remarkably decent woman, a poor weaver's wife, is twenty-four hours in labour, without any thing to support not only her pain, but nature. For Heaven's sake, do something for us!

AN INHABITANT OF CLONAKILTY.

*The humble Petition of the poor Weavers of Clonakilty to William Cobbett.*

Praying of him to exert himself in their behalf, and try and rouse some feelings of pity for their unhappy condition. They are without employment for six months; while an article of furniture or wearing apparel remained to them, they made not their distress known, hoping that each succeeding day would bring in

some revival of their trade. At length necessity forced them to throw themselves on the generosity of the Public. The Gentlemen of the town got up a meeting, where it was endeavoured to raise a fund to give them the weekly support of 6*d.* to each member of a family. With this they were content; it gave them a meal of dry potatoes in the day, but it enabled us to live for better days. Doctor *Coppinger*, the Roman Catholic Bishop, sent us 50*l.*, but his example was not followed by many others, who derive large fortunes from us. Lord *Shannon* alone, of all the landed proprietors, sent us some relief. The best workman among us cannot earn at his work, supposing even he works sixteen hours a day, more than 6*d.* and what is this to support eight in family, and potatoes from 7*d.* to 8*d.* the weight. We throw ourselves and our poor families on you, Mr. *Cobbett*, the friend of the poor, to implore you to exert your all-powerful pen in our behalf, and to bring our misery before a generous English public; we have no prospect before us but death. Whatever may be the fate of this Petition, your Petitioners will ever pray for you.

For myself and Brethren,  
DANIEL DRISCOLL.

*To the Editor of the Morning Herald.*

SIR,—Your paper has been so often the means of obtaining relief for the injured and the distressed, I am induced to request your assistance in giving publicity to the misery now existing among the cotton weavers in the district in which I write. I am the clergyman of two very populous parishes

in Yorkshire, in which the poor depend entirely upon the weaving of cotton for their support. For, as this is a grazing county, there is scarcely any out-door work. In consequence of the extreme depression now existing in that branch of trade our population are very generally thrown out of work. I believe that I do not exaggerate when I say that three-fourths of the labouring class are obliged to receive parochial relief. Our small farmers are in consequence rapidly sinking down to a state of pauperism, and our great ones are far too much impoverished by the incessant demands upon them to do any more than contribute what is necessary for the bare support of the poor. The distress is now becoming alarming. About seven weeks since we raised a subscription among ourselves, which amounted to about 140*l.* for the two parishes, and this we have now nearly expended in enabling the distressed poor, about 440 families every week, to purchase oatmeal at half-price. In three weeks the whole will be finished, and where we are to obtain any relief beyond the miserable pittance arising from the rates, I am quite unable to say, unless some of your charitable readers will answer this humble appeal. I beg to lay before you two circumstances in illustration of our distress. Last week a cow died in calving. It was skinned, and the carcass was thrown upon the dunghill. In the course of the following night the whole was taken away for food. In one man's pantry I saw a considerable quantity in salt. It emitted a poisonous smell. Another family was made extremely ill, either from

the excessive quantity they had eaten; or from the deleterious nature of the food.

In the other parish, on going my usual weekly circuit from house to house, the following fact came under the observation of the person who accompanied me and of myself. We called at a cottage, about two o'clock on a Wednesday afternoon—the woman had lain in on the Saturday preceding—neither she nor her husband had tasted food for twenty-eight hours, with the exception of a little tea that morning, without sugar or milk; the woman had besides eaten a small cake—the man nothing. I was enabled immediately to send them in a small quantity of food, and a humane shopkeeper in the village (for I reside at a distance) immediately sent a comfortable mess to the poor woman. On the Saturday, while in the pangs of labour, this woman continued to work at a gown which she had to make for a neighbour, knowing that unless she could send it in they should have nothing for their support the next day; and after her delivery she would have completed it, but was prevented. Your readers will naturally ask how such distress can occur under our poor laws? The answer, in this instance, is, that there are so many approaching to the same situation, that these poor persons were unnoticed amid the general mass of suffering, till we happened to visit them. These two cases are the most prominent, but there are others now in a situation nearly as bad. If they have occurred while we have been enabled to unite the aid of our private subscription with that afforded by

the poor rates, what may be expected when the poor are left to the rates alone? If there are any of your readers who have not calls upon their charity of the same imperative nature as those which I here describe, I would humbly implore them to contribute to the relief of these two distressed parishes. Our funds are under the control of a committee of respectability, and will be applied to the relief of the most urgent cases. Allow me to say, in conclusion, that about three years ago, when a general subscription was made for the distressed Irish, I went from house to house through the parishes, and (with the exception of two or three) received contributions from the whole. These are the persons for whom I now plead. I subjoin my name, for your information, and give a reference to a friend in London, who will answer for my respectability. Should any one wish to know my name, &c., you are at liberty to communicate it. Any money may be paid to my account at the bank named below, and shall be most faithfully applied.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.,

CLERICUS CANTABRIGIENSIS.

April 22.

We are sorry to direct the attention of our townsmen to the picture presented by the Workhouse Report of yesterday:—*Seventy-six* have been admitted during the past seven days, and there are now *six hundred and seventy-eight* human beings crammed together (for we cannot term it any thing else.)—*Blackburn Mail*. Note.—(So much for the power-loom and other machinery system of manufacturing more

goods than any fair demand can carry off.)

The valuation of the land in the township of Padiham, is about 2,300*l.*, and the sum of two hundred pounds per month is paid to the paupers. A respectable inn-keeper is actually paying near 2*l.* weekly for poor rates.—*Blackburn Mail.*

*Macclefield, Thursday, 22d of April.*—The workmen again begin to congregate in the streets in the evening, and I should not be very much surprised if we had another disturbance.

As a medical gentleman was returning on horseback from the neighbourhood of Brindle, last week, he was attacked by three men, one of whom seized the reins of the horse, and begged him to give him one shilling, as himself, his wife, and five children, were entirely starving for want of food: the gentleman inquired who the other two men were, and he was informed they were in the same situation; upon which he kindly gave them each a shilling, and they went peaceably away.—*Blackburn Mail.* [Our manufacturing system is bringing us into the same situation as the high duty system has brought Spain into, so far as smugglers are concerned.]

On Saturday last most of the houses in the silk hosiery trade, were compelled to discharge the greater part of their hands. The lace-houses say the demand is a little improved, but prices are not remunerating.—*Nottingham Herald.*

At new year's-day last, it will be recollected, there were only twenty persons confined in the gaol of this city for debt. The case is

now very different, and the debtors at present amount to fifty-eight. Few of these are workmen. They have nearly all been in business for themselves in some way or other. During the brisk out-pull of the notes (12½ per cent. more last year than the year before) they were in high spirits, and flattered themselves that they were rapidly improving in their circumstances; but by the inevitable re-action, their best-founded hopes have been blighted, and they have been reduced to poverty and a prison. In few cases have the incarcerators been able to obtain a settlement. When the poor men are lodged in their rooms, they appear to consider themselves lost to the world, and only anxious for a continuance of their subsistence under the statute.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

#### MARYLEBONE-OFFICE.

On Friday, the 21st, an intelligent young woman, who gave her name Margaret Reading, and that she was in the service of the Rev. Mr. Gage, of Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square, attended at this office; to ask the advice of Mr. Rawlinson, the magistrate, how she should act under the following extraordinary circumstances. She stated, that in consequence of the death of her father and mother, she had been left with two brothers quite unprovided for; and in order that they might be properly protected, she succeeded in placing them in the workhouse, and procuring for herself a respectable situation in the family of Mr. Gage. One of her brothers had been apprenticed to a woollen-draper, but the other still remained in the workhouse of Marylebone parish, where appli-

cant was led to believe he would remain until a vacancy occurred in the parish school, when he would be placed in the school for the purpose of education. She, however, ascertained that it was the determination of the parish to send several boys to America; and that among the number her brother was included. It was not his inclination to leave England, nor did she wish it, and feeling particularly anxious about the matter, she paid a visit to the workhouse, where she saw her brother, who was rejoiced to see her, and expressed his reluctance to go to America, and she was informed that he certainly would be sent off with the other boys tomorrow, unless he was taken out of the workhouse immediately. Applicant said that she was obliged to work very hard for her own support. She would be willing to take her brother altogether from such a place as the workhouse, but her means would not admit of her doing so. She could not support him if she took him out of the workhouse, and she had no friends to take care of him. In this dilemma she was afraid that her brother would be sent away from her without his or her consent, and she wished to know from the magistrate whether the parish would be justified in sending him to America, or whether she could not claim the protection of the magistrate.

Mr. Rawlinson thought it a most extraordinary proceeding, and said he was aware that the subject of sending destitute children to Canada was at present under the consideration of a committee of the House of Commons, but they not having yet decided

on the point, he conceived that the parish was not at all justified in anticipating them and sending children to Canada prior to the result of their deliberation. How old is your brother?

Applicant.—Twelve years of age.

Mr. Rawlinson.—It is almost time for him to be put apprentice.

Applicant.—I wish him to remain in the workhouse until he can be put into the school.

Mr. Rawlinson.—You have made inquiries at the workhouse?

Applicant.—I have, and was told he would surely be sent, if I did not take him away before Saturday.

Mr. Rawlinson.—They cannot legally do it. The Board are now sitting; you go there directly, and speak to them, then return to me, and let me know the result of your application.

The applicant thanked his worship, and left the office to pursue his advice, and shortly after returned by herself.

She stated, that she had been there, and was told again that it was their determination to send the boys off, unless taken from the workhouse before Saturday.

Mr. Rawlinson.—They cannot do it. Whom did you see?

Applicant.—Two men. I don't know whether they were gentlemen or no. One of them told me, "It was no use to trouble the Board;" and on telling them that I had come there by Mr. Rawlinson's advice, they told me that Mr. Rawlinson had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Rawlinson smiled, and asked whether she was told that he had "nothing to do with it" in the presence of the Board?



Applicant said she was.

*Mr. Rawlinson*.—I can only say again that they will not be justified in sending your brother to Canada: the propriety of such proceeding is now under consideration, and it would be premature to send children there yet.

Applicant.—I think they are determined on sending him, and I should wish to be satisfied on the subject. He should not go if I could take him out of the workhouse.

*Mr. Rawlinson*.—It will be impossible for the parish to send him to-morrow, unless at their own risk. He took down her name and the address of the Rev. Mr. Gage, and made a promise to inquire about the matter himself at the workhouse, and would convey to her by letter the result of his inquiries, again assuring her that her brother could not be sent out of the country by the parish until the committee of the House of Commons had decided.

#### BLACKBURN, APRIL 24.

Since Wednesday last various reports have been circulated in the town, to the effect that on this day the people of the surrounding townships meditated a general attack on the various power-loom factories in this town and neighbourhood, but few, if any, gave credence to them.

On Saturday morning intelligence was received that His Majesty had sent a donation of one thousand pounds, to be applied in aid of the fund for the relief of the distressed cotton weavers, which seemed to infuse a general feeling of thankfulness into the breasts of all the inhabitants, and it was expected that this circum-

stance would have dissipated all designs of insubordination, supposing any to have been entertained.

However, about noon, this day, accounts were received from Accrington and that vicinity, that a mob, consisting of several thousand men, had marched, armed some with pikes and others with bludgeons, and a part even with fire-arms, into the village, and proceeded to the factory of Messrs. Sykes (which it will be remembered was the scene of the former outrage). On this intelligence being received, a party of the First Dragoon Guards, stationed here, were immediately despatched; and it appears they met the mob proceeding in the direction of Blackburn; but having no one with them competent to give the necessary orders, they were obliged to let them pass. On arriving at the place of their destination, they found the mob had entered the factory, and entirely destroyed all the power-looms, but had not injured any other property. It also appears, that they had gone to the power-loom mill of Mr. Burey, at White Ash, near Accrington, and had there likewise destroyed all the looms, and had repeated the same at the factory of Messrs. Walmesley, at Rough Hey.

The mob marched into Blackburn about two o'clock this afternoon, with their pikes, &c., on their shoulders, and proceeded directly to the factory of Messrs. Eccles and Co. the principal power-loom establishment in the town. The people belonging to the factory had been at work all the morning, but, on the arrival of the above intelligence, had left their employment,

and the doors were fastened. When the mob arrived, they forced the door, and a great number of them went in, and proceeded to destroy all the looms, and cast part of the work through the windows. Meanwhile, the remainder of the military were mustered, and went to the spot, accompanied by a Magistrate, who read the Riot Act. The soldiers then rode into the yard, where part of the mob were with pikes in their hands, and succeeded in seizing a considerable number of the pikes, and took three men prisoners. A part of the mob began to pelt the soldiers and the Magistrates with stones, on which the soldiers fired their carbines, which, however, were only loaded with blank cartridges. That part of the mob, who had entered the factory, finding their escape impossible by the doors, forced the back windows next the ground open, and by that means got entirely away. About three o'clock the party of soldiers, who had been despatched to Accrington, returned (all being quiet there when they arrived), and proceeded, up to Grimshaw Park, near this town, where there is another power-loom establishment; and for which fears were entertained, though no attempt had, up to that period, been made. A crowd, however, gradually collected around the place, which is situate close to the canal banks, and about five o'clock the men who had escaped from Messrs. Eccles and Co.'s factory, as above-mentioned, joined them, and began to pelt the soldiers with stones, and then made a regular attack upon them, armed with pikes. The ground on which the soldiers were, lays very much exposed, and is

so limited that the soldiers could scarcely act, and after several attempts to defend the place, they were at last overpowered, and a portion of the mob entered the factory, and demolished the looms. Shots were exchanged between the soldiers and the mob, and we hear that one or more of the former have received serious injuries, and the latter also did not escape, indeed one person's life is considered in great danger. The soldiers, however, succeeded in taking some of the ringleaders prisoners, and this evening they were, together with the three taken as before mentioned, examined before the Magistrate, and have just been conveyed to the House of Correction at Preston, escorted by a party of soldiers, the mob having held out an intimation that they would rescue them.

The town has, as may be imagined, been, and still continues, in the most feverish state of alarm; the Riot Act has been read in various places, and parties of the military are now patrolling the streets, in which there are a great multitude of people, who, however, do not manifest any feeling beyond that of curiosity. The men who were all conductors of the attack on the factories were all from the neighbouring villages, and a considerable part have returned home.

The damage done cannot yet of course be ascertained, though I think it cannot altogether be less than 7 or 8,000l. No damage has been done to the spinning part of any of the factories, nor even to the windows, the sole object of attack being the power-loom. The shops have been closed during the whole afternoon,

and business entirely suspended. No disposition to commit any outrage upon any other property has been manifested.

Half-past 9.—The streets are clearing fast.

P. S. 10 o'clock.—I have opened the letter to say I have just received information that two persons were shot at Grimshaw Park, one of whom is just dead—the other is considered in great danger.

### TO MR. COBBETT.

*Antelope Inn, Leicester,  
April 13, 1826.*

SIR,—I am directed by the different trades in Leicester, to send you the annexed copy of their Resolutions and Address to the Landlords; hoping it will excite your attention, and direct those talents which have been on many occasions so advantageously employed, to a subject in which the comfort of the poor of this land is so deeply involved. Misery, to an extent hitherto unknown, still prevails amongst us, and appears to increase every hour, without any prospect of the wide-spreading calamity being arrested in its progress. The middle classes are fast hastening into the vortex of pauperism.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

THOMAS NOON, Chairman.

Wm. Cobbett, Esq.

### CORN LAWS.

*At a meeting of Deputies from the different Trades in Leicester, held at the Antelope Inn, March 29, 1826, the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—*

*Resolved,—That the misery of*

*the times in which we live, is not caused by any visitation of Providence, but arises solely from that unjust and avaricious disposition, which has placed the poor of this land under the cruel operation of the Corn-Laws.*

*Resolved,—That it is our bounden duty to persevere in our exertions until those laws are repealed; and that as the rich would not endure a tax upon property, the poor ought not to endure a tax upon bread.*

*Resolved,—That the tax upon bread is the most odious of all taxes; that it is not necessary to, nor do Government derive any support from it; that they have ample means without a tax upon bread; that it is a tax upon the poor to add to the immense wealth of the landed proprietors, and therefore cannot be equalled by any other act of injustice.*

*Resolved,—That the electors of the United Kingdom be requested to try every person who may become a candidate to represent them in Parliament, at the ensuing election, by his conduct and opinions respecting the Corn-Laws; and to suffer no person who votes for those laws, to come into Parliament, without the most determined opposition.*

*Resolved,—That this country does not produce a sufficient supply of the necessaries of life, to enable its inhabitants to live in comfort; which is, of itself, a sufficient reason why the Corn-Laws should be repealed.*

*Resolved,—That the following Address be sent to those landed proprietors who support the Corn-Laws.*

*Resolved,—That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Lord*

King, for his able and strenuous exertions, in the House of Lords, to obtain the repeal of the Corn Laws.

*Resolved*,—That these Resolutions and the Address, be inserted in the Leicester, Nottingham, and Coventry Newspapers; and that each county be requested to advertise them in their adjoining counties, till they shall vibrate through all parts of the land;—be heard on the mountains of Wales, and be re-echoed by the highlands of Scotland.

*To the Landed Proprietors who support the Corn Laws.*

GENTLEMEN,

Of all the vices which affect human nature, that of avarice is the most baneful to the general happiness of mankind. When once this cruel disposition takes possession of the mind, the happiness of every one within its grasp must be sacrificed to satisfy its insatiable thirst for riches. Every thing is perverted and viewed through a false medium, and the most glaring paradoxes and sophistical arguments are deemed sound reasoning. It shows no mercy, and whatever it can obtain is eagerly seized and firmly retained. It is to this disposition that we must attribute those cruel laws, which prevent the poor obtaining a sufficiency of the necessities of life. How lamentable it is to see many of the great and noble of this land, whose possessions are immense—whose every want can be satisfied—whose tables can be supplied with every dainty—whose palaces can be furnished with the most splendid furniture, and whose persons can be adorned with the richest ap-

parel, and have thousands to spare, tenaciously adhering to, and supporting laws, which deprive the poor of employment, and take from him his morsel of bread.—Is there indeed another world?—Are these lords of the soil indeed mortal? and will they be stripped of all their grandeur, and rot like the meanest wretch, in the silent and dreary tomb?—And will they rise again with no covering to hide them from the inscrutable eye of an impartial Judge? Surely it cannot be, at least you that support the corn laws, can believe none of these things. O! ye great—ye noble—ye proprietors of the earth—is there no compassion left in your bosoms? Surely the number of human victims who have been immolated at the shrine of the corn laws, ought to soften the most obdurate heart, and satisfy the most unbounded appetite for riches! Must the poor still pine year after year, and linger out their contracted span, under the most cruel sufferings? Perhaps your heart is still hardened, but though you should continue to oppress them 400 years, the Almighty will as surely avenge their cause as he punished Pharaoh in the red sea.

Be wise then, and refrain in time—relinquish your iron grasp, and let the poor live: fight not against the Almighty, but let the poor enjoy his bounty. Think you not that you are fighting against Heaven, and that you must fall in the unequal contest? You pervert His gifts—you stand between His blessing and the poor, and say, that they shall not taste His bounty—they shall eat none of the produce of your soil, unless you can obtain an extravagant

price for it. How daring—how impious thus to treat the Almighty! He is indeed merciful, or He would strike you to the earth with His thunderbolts! Is there such a religion as Christianity? you do not, you cannot believe it. If you do, is this “loving thy neighbour as thyself?” Would you not, if you did believe it, be content to sell him the produce of your fields as cheap as he can purchase it of foreigners and strangers? Would you, when he is starving say, You shall not purchase corn anywhere else, until I have exacted 80s. per quarter for mine? Do you not possess the soil? Do you suffer the poor to trespass upon it with impunity? Do you not cultivate it, or withhold cultivating it as you please, and either sell, or not sell the produce, or send it where you please? How cruel then—how inhuman, to say to the poor man, who toils early and late, destitute of the comforts of life—his children crying and starving for bread—himself worn out with hard labour and hopeless grief; who, though he enriches his country by his exhaustion, has only to look forward, when unable to labour, to being shut up in a workhouse-prison, or to receive a miserable pittance from a taunting and unfeeling workhouse master, or overseer,—You shall not purchase the corn of other countries, except at that extravagant price. And is it not equally cruel to say to the poor man destitute of employ, You shall sweep the streets barefoot and naked for six-pence a-day—you shall endure cold and hunger, for I will not permit you to exchange your labour for the corn of other countries, until I have

exactd 80s. per quarter for mine!!! O, Africa! thy sons are indeed treated with cruelty and inhumanity by strangers, but Englishmen treat their own countrymen with cruelty and inhumanity, though they profess to be bound together by the sacred ties of the Christian religion!

Signed,

On behalf of the Meeting,

THOMAS CLARKE,  
Chairman.

### THE BLUE AND BUFF.

THAT is, that which formerly was the universally-dreaded English Navy; that which we have sung till we have been hoarse with singing; that which we have toasted in oceans of wine. But, alas! it was the Navy which our forefathers left us that we have toasted and hoasted; and what we are going to leave our children in the shape of Navy may be guessed at by the woeful exploits of that Navy in the late war with Jonathan; and, in the three articles below, which I take from the *Morning Herald* of the 11th, 15th, and 20th of April, those exploits are amply accounted for. And thus it is no longer a “Navy;” it is no longer the “Wooden Walls;” but simply the upstart, grovelling, insolent, expensive at home, and beaten abroad, *Blue and Buff*.

MORNING HERALD, APRIL 11th.

THE Navy has always been considered as the peculiar and appropriate bulwark of Great Britain. Its efforts have saved her empire more than once, and on its energies her salvation may ultimately depend. It cannot be denied that the services of this great and national power have

noon of late years rather overlooked; yet, from the overthrow of the Spanish Armada down to the last triumphs of Trafalgar, England, in every crisis of more than ordinary danger, has placed her last hope of security in her seamen, and has not been disappointed. But while it is at all thought necessary to maintain her naval force, it is of the first importance that it should be properly governed. Improvements in naval architecture may avail us little, if the skill and heroism that ought to animate the service receive no adequate encouragement; and how can skill and heroism be promoted, if a vicious system of patronage bestows the rewards of the veteran warrior on those who can only boast of their connexions and their inexperience? Is not the system of promotion in the navy, at present, of such a nature as to repress all generous ambition, all manly rivalry, by showing that neither superiority of talent, nor devotedness of conduct, nor length of service, can outweigh the sordid calculations of favoritism? It is of great consideration that the actual state of the navy, in this respect, should be laid before the public; and Mr. Hume, in moving for such returns as exemplify it, has done a great service to the country. We feel it our duty to assist the laudable object which he has in view, by directing the public attention to the subjoined list, which is extracted from the "Returns of Naval Promotions" for the last year. It contains the names of Lieutenants promoted to be Commanders during that year; and, by the comparison of the dates of their commission, a most disgraceful inequality will be observable. It will be found, that those officers, who have been long taught to know that "sickness of the heart which arises from hope deferred," are men without those family connexions or Parliamentary influence which supersede merit, while those whose honours have been of rapid growth were not compelled to gather

them among the dangers of the ocean. Of the latter class, we refer the reader to the name of *Russell Henry Manners*—a name known to one of the most fortunate branches of our aristocracy. It will be seen that his commission is dated in October 1822. What service has this gentleman seen—what achievements has he performed, to earn so soon the grateful acknowledgment of his country? The answer will be found by a reference to the Herald's College or the Court Guide. Contrast with him the case of *John Allison*, whose commission bears date in December 1791. Here are thirty-one years of probation, while Mr. *Manners* was only doomed to the sad solicitude of three! Again, we see *George James Hope Johnstone*, with a seniority so old as 1821, and *John Mundell*, who became Lieutenant in 1801, having waited just twenty years longer than the other for the rank of Commander! Again, there are *John Land Wynn*, *Thomas Baring Bond*, *George Back*, and *Henry Layton*, the two former of whom became Lieutenants in 1820, and the two latter in 1821. But names "more known to fame" are *William Pitt Canning*, *Henry Byam Martin*, and Lord *William Paget*, the fortunate possessors of which names having received their commissions in 1823, were, in the second year of their Lieutenantcy, made Commanders! What a pity that they had not some opportunity of signaling themselves during that period, that the world might not consider them as fresh and unaccustomed to the use of the "vile guns" as Hotspur's gentle friend. Far different was the probation of the less favoured names of *Josias Bray* and *John Pearse*, whose commissions are dated 1800,—of *Daniel Weld*, who was made the year before, and of *Thomas Cowper Sherwin*, who, having become a Lieutenant in 1796, or thirty years ago, was raised to the rank of Commander along with other two-year old Lieutenants! Here is a

system that leaves one Lieutenant to bear the storms and battles of a quarter of a century before he is made Commander, and does not allow another to carry a commission two years, and that in the "weak, piping time of peace," when the service is rendered sweet and kindly for him by promotion. Such is the system of patronage, and such are its fruits! Who that reflects on the consequences of such an administration of naval affairs as this, can wonder at the triumph which American skill and valour gained over the

British flag in the last war! It was not customary, before that time, for British tars to talk of the relative proportions of an enemy's frigate as a good reason why it should capture one of our's. But, if the present plan of promotion be acted on for many years to come, we may again have to find arguments to reconcile us to our naval losses, while the officers of a rival nation that rise by merit, may, to our cost, have to instruct our striplings of "rank and family" in the discipline of war.

Return of the Number of LIEUTENANTS promoted to be COMMANDERS in the Royal Navy, between the 1st January 1825 and 1st January 1826; stating, the Name of each Person so promoted, and the date of the Commission each Officer held at the time of his Promotion; distinguishing the Promotions in the Navy on Foreign Stations, stating the Name and Rank of all those so promoted.

Name.	Seniority as Lieutenant.
William Nevill .....	12 December ..... 1816
William Pitt Canning .....	19 February ..... 1823
Charles Wemyss .....	30 April ..... 1818
Samuel Thornton .....	21 May ..... 1819
Henry Byam Martin .....	20 March ..... 1823
Lord William Paget .....	8 April ..... 1823
Henry Shovel Marshall .....	30 June ..... 1813
John King .....	3 March ..... 1815
Charles Colville Frankland .....	26 March ..... 1819
Thomas Hastings .....	17 January ..... 1810
John Cawley .....	16 August ..... 1800
Thomas Cowper Sherwin .....	22 July ..... 1796
Daniel Weld .....	10 September ..... 1799
Josias Bray .....	1 November ..... 1800
John Pearse .....	29 September ..... 1800
George Spencer Richards .....	7 May ..... 1804
William Snuggs Gammon .....	5 April ..... 1805
John Eagar .....	10 October ..... 1805
John Chafin Morris .....	22 September ..... 1807
George Edward Marshall .....	22 September ..... 1807
Thomas Phipps .....	11 December ..... 1807
Henry Slade .....	12 November ..... 1808
William Saunders .....	7 January ..... 1809
James M'Donald .....	25 March ..... 1809
John Crie .....	2 November ..... 1809
Francis Ormond .....	3 December ..... 1810
Augustus Champion De Crespigny .....	1 November ..... 1811
Augustus Donaldson .....	20 November ..... 1812
Joseph Clitty Jellicoe .....	11 October ..... 1814
Richard Beaumont .....	13 October ..... 1819
Henry Layton .....	2 November ..... 1821
Hugh Clapperton .....	20 March ..... 1815
John Milligan Laws .....	11 November ..... 1818
Alexander Tait .....	1 June ..... 1814
*William Burdett Dobson .....	3 January ..... 1814
Augustus Henry Kellett .....	14 February ..... 1815
George Mitchener .....	5 July ..... 1806

Name.	Seniority as Lieutenant.
Nathaniel Martin.....	19 March..... 1807
William Luckraft.....	11 December..... 1807
Richard Barton.....	27 December..... 1808
Michael Dickson.....	27 December..... 1808
Philip Graham.....	14 April..... 1810
Thomas Beer.....	4 May..... 1810
Russell Henry Manners.....	19 October..... 1822
George Tincombe.....	4 May..... 1810
Richard Howe Cockerell.....	20 January..... 1818
John Allison.....	17 December..... 1794
William Symonds.....	14 October..... 1801
Charles Croker.....	17 December..... 1814
Joseph Maynard.....	4 March..... 1815
William Mudge.....	19 September..... 1815
John Mundell.....	10 January..... 1801
William Geo. Hyndman Whish..	16 September..... 1816
Thomas Baring Bond.....	3 October..... 1820
*Thomas Stephenson.....	24 August..... 1814
Edward Blanckley.....	6 February..... 1815
*George James Hope Johnstone	3 October..... 1821
John Land Wynn.....	3 November..... 1820
George Back.....	1 January..... 1821
Total.....	59

Note.—Those distinguished by a star (\*) prefixed to their names, were promoted to Death or Court Martial vacancies on Foreign Stations. Total..3.

#### MORNING HERALD, APRIL 15th.

THE state of our Navy demands inquiry. We have already shown why its government requires reformation.—In doing so, we have not gone on vague report, or relied on statements that might be imputed to party fiction or popular exaggeration; we have taken our evidence on this subject from the Government itself. The documents furnished to the House of Commons, by the Admiralty Office, have afforded the facts on which our arguments are supported. The vicious system of patronage, which now lavishes honours and emolument upon the fortunate relatives or dependants of great families, and leaves experienced and meritorious officers, who have no interest at Court, to languish in obscurity, cannot be continued without ruin to the public service. If so mischievous a principle is not abolished; it must extend itself. Abuses of power, when tolerated in any degree, eventually grow into excess. The corrupt instance becomes, at length, the general practice. Thus the number of promotions for long

and honourable services will be continually becoming less, while the preferments that are the result of family or political influence—of sycophancy and mean artifices, will increase. What will be the consequence to the nation? Her Navy, the strength, the hope, the proud bulwark of the country, will moulder away. If such a selection of superior officers be made in a time of peace as are not fit to be intrusted with command in the hour of danger, what is there to sustain the supremacy of the British flag in the unfortunate event of a war? If promotions are made without reference to talent, skill, or length of service, where are we to find the intelligence and heroism that should conduct our fleets to victory?—The bravery of our sailors may not perish, but without good and efficient officers, what is there to turn that bravery to account? The masses of a fleet or army may, as to tactics, be regarded as machines; but, in the battle, the troops who have not confidence in those who command are but half armed against an enemy—and, in most instances, they feel as men devoted to destruc-



tion. Now we say that appointments arising, not from merit, but patronage, are, in nine cases out of ten, appointments that, so far from giving confidence to men, inspire their contempt. Such vigour and invincible hardihood as *Blake* or *Nelson* infused into our fleets, could not be created by any number of the pampered things that favouritism loves to promote. This heroism, which no enemy can destroy, may be annihilated by the evil genius of corrupt patronage, that fosters the worthless and incapable, at the expense of generous and manly ambition. Since the appearance of our former remarks on this subject, a correspondent, with great reason, says—"If the aristocratical interest does not prevail over merit in the Naval service, how is it that almost the whole of the ships on the South American and other profitable stations, are commanded by Lords, Honourables, and Baronets; not one of whom has ever seen a shot-fired as a Captain? Look at the list. Is it justice that the oldest Colonel for promotion, Sir *R. C. Hill*, should be but seven years standing, whilst the oldest Captain in the Navy for promotion is of twenty-four years standing?" And again he asks—"What services have the numerous *Dundas* and *Hopes* rendered to their country, to entitle them to the rapid advancement they have all experienced, as may be seen by a reference to the Navy List, where their names will be found by dozens?" Thus is promotion in the Navy becoming as foul and negotiable as the representation of a close borough! We have already given instances of disgraceful inequality, in the list of pro-

motions for the last year, of Lieutenants to the rank of Commanders. We will now point out a few examples of a similar nature from the list of Commanders raised to the rank of Captains, which we subjoin. We there see *Henry Dundas*, who was made a Commander in 1823, obtaining the rank of Captain in 1825, while near his name stands that of *Christopher Nixon*, who, having been a Commander in 1809, remained without further advancement to the same year, 1825. So that Mr. *Nixon*, not having any borough or Ministerial connexion, waited sixteen years for that preferment which the magic name of *Dundas* achieved for its possessor in less than two years! Again, we see the name of *Charles Philip Yorke*, the owner of which was, in the third year of his Commandership, made a Post Captain, while *Daniel Barber*, *Henry Jane*, and *Edmund Denman*, waited fifteen years for the same preferment. Again, *John George Graham* and *Alexander Thomas Emeric Vidal*, became Commanders in 1823, *Charles Bowen*, *George Robert Lambert*, *George Russell* and *Henry Parkyns Hoppner* in 1822—the former two were made Captains in the second year of their Commandership, and the latter in their third, while *Charles Mitchell*, *John Skekel*, and *George Augustus Hire* did not receive the same rank until they were Commanders fourteen years. Facts like these speak volumes—we will not comment farther on them at present, but submit them to the attentive and dispassionate perusal of all who feel for the honour and interests of England.

Return of the Number of COMMANDERS promoted to the Rank of CAPTAIN in the Royal Navy, between the 1st January 1825 and 1st January 1826; stating the Name of each Person so promoted, and the date of the Commission each Officer held at the time of his Promotion.

Name.	Seniority as Commander.
Percy Grace .....	15 June ..... 1814
Henry Dundas .....	16 May ..... 1823
William Hotham .....	15 June ..... 1814
Charles Mitchell .....	24 May ..... 1811

Name.	Seniority as Commander.
Honourable Montagu Stopford ..	29 January ..... 1822
Christopher Nixon .....	11 April ..... 1809
Edmund Denman .....	17 February ..... 1810
Daniel Barber .....	2 May ..... 1810
Henry Jane .....	10 May ..... 1810
John Skekel .....	28 June ..... 1811
George Augustus Hire .....	1 August ..... 1811
Charles Montagu Walker .....	1 February ..... 1812
John Stoddart .....	3 July ..... 1812
George Ourry Lempriere .....	30 January ..... 1813
Thomas Barker Devon .....	4 May ..... 1813
Charles Philip Yorke .....	18 May ..... 1822
Henry Ducie Chads .....	28 May ..... 1813
*Frederick Marryatt .....	13 June ..... 1815
Thomas Warraud .....	27 July ..... 1812
John Gore (B.) .....	10 October ..... 1812
Charles Bowen .....	19 July ..... 1822
George Robert Lambert .....	19 January ..... 1822
Thomas Smith .....	15 June ..... 1814
George Gosling .....	24 April ..... 1815
John George Graham .....	16 June ..... 1823
George Russell .....	7 September ..... 1822
Alex. Thos. Emeric Vidal .....	15 May ..... 1823
John Leith .....	13 June ..... 1815
Henry Parkyns Hoppner .....	25 January ..... 1822
Total .....	29

\* Captain Frederick Marryatt is the only one of these Officers promoted to a Death or Court Martial vacancy on a Foreign Station.

#### MORNING HERALD, APRIL 20th.

It is now some time since VAN TROMP, the Dutch Admiral, hoisted a broom at the mast-head, to signify that he would sweep the English fleet from the ocean. He was not as good as his word, though his intention was very sincere. There were some obstacles in the way of the accomplishment of his threat, which his courage and perseverance were unable to overcome. The hardihood of our sailors—the fearless spirit, and gallant emulation of our naval commanders, retorted so unpleasantly on the coarse joke of the Dutchman, that he soon relapsed into the gravity of his race, and never indulged in the “merry vein” again. There is a way, however, of effecting what VAN TROMP or no other enemy could achieve, and that is to be done in course of time, by such a system of promotion as the Naval returns recently laid before the House of Commons disclose.

It is this system of promotion that is calculated to repress the heroism and humble the grandeur of the British Navy, and be more effective in sweeping our supremacy from the ocean than the broom of VAN TROMP. The meritorious officer, who, after great exertions and long service, sees some fortunate stripling who has not yet acquired the rudiments of war placed in command over him, cannot be expected to pursue the career of toil and danger with a heart full of devotion to his country. Conscious that his services have been held in no estimation, and that he is under the orders of those whom he ought to instruct, his spirit must droop, and his confidence in the prowess of his commanders cease to inspire the assurance of victory. Besides, those who are raised without merit, do in their turn exercise a vicious patronage with regard to those below them. They do not like the talents and the knowledge which are a reproach to their own ignorance or incapacity.

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They are apt to discourage the honest manliness of those who cultivate the genuine qualities of the British tar. The sturdy frank disposition of such men is very apt to shirk the delicate constitutions of the 'Captain Whiffles' of the day, whose honours flowered in the hot-bed of Admiralty patronage. Hence the oily words of the flatterer, and the artifices of those who study intrigue more than honourable deeds, make the way straight to preferment. The example becomes contagious, till that gallant spirit that covered our fleet with trophies, moulders away, and some more hardy enemy at length arises to wrest from our enervated mariners the dominion of the ocean. That day we would wish to hope is far distant, but it is certain, it must come, or the present system of promotion in the Navy be thoroughly reformed. Let us not forget how, in the last war, the despised frigates of America—those "fir vessels with bits of striped bunting," as an applauded orator in the House of Commons called them, endangered our naval reputation. And what reformation has been adopted since?—Name it not in Gath!—why the naval costume was ordered to be changed! Instead of the old blue and buff, in which *Blake*, and *Rodney*, and *Servis*, and *Duncan*, and *Howe*, and *Nelson*, gained that succession of battles which might be said to have chained victory to the British Standard, it was resolved that the Spanish dress—that uniform of which our brave seamen had so often seen the rear, should be adopted. In that uniform our Naval Officers would have looked as gay, and, perhaps, as ridiculous as the carpenter bird of Java, with red thighs and breast, and blue legs and back. The ungenteel sarcasms, however, which the first intimation of this Spanish improvement in dress produced, caused the design to be abandoned, and the reform was limited to adding the magic of gold lace to the blue coats, in place of the original and antiquated buff. Whether this change will produce great

and glorious results in the event of another war with the Americans, is yet to be determined. There may be much virtue in gold lace, but our tars have yet to find it out.—We have already made some remarks upon the lists of Lieutenants promoted to the rank of Commanders, and of Commanders promoted to the rank of Captains; we will now refer to the list of Midshipmen raised to the rank of Lieutenants in the last year, and advert to a few of the names, and their relative times of service, as they appear in the list which we subjoin. It will there be seen that *Richard Napper*, *David Steel*, and *William Walter Oke* entered the service in 1808, and remained Midshipmen until 1825, when *William Broughton*, *Thomas R. T. Thompson*, *Henry J. Lister Muir*, *Thomas Pownall Pellew Barrow*: ("I like," says Dr. Primrose, "to give the whole name"), *Charles Holtham*, *John Alexander Dantze*, the Hon. *John Frederick Fitzgerald De Ros*, and *Tollett Pennell*, were made Lieutenants, who had not entered the service until 1818, or ten years after the former Officers! Some of the names of the latter gentlemen are known as being connected with high families—that of *Mrs Pennell* is obscure, but he has the advantage, as we understand, of being, by marriage, a near relative of *Mr. Croker*, Secretary to the Admiralty. Again, we see that *Charles Blyth*, *Joseph William Brown*, *George Whithelo*, *George Goldfinch*, and several others, who were not promoted until last year, entered the service in 1807; also *Charles Goldsmith*, *Sandford Miles*, and *Henry Joseph Hill* entered the service in 1806, and *William Squires*, *Thomas Lorey Roberts*, and *Robert Robinson*, were Midshipmen, as far back as the year 1805. Contrast with these, *Richard Freeman Rawley*, *William Wellesley*, and the Hon. *Frederick William Grey*, who did not enter the service until 1819, and we would be glad to hear what claims they had beyond those of fortunate connexion to entitle

them to a promotion in six years, for which others whom we have mentioned were obliged to wait twenty years! Here is encouragement to those who have shed their blood and confronted every danger through the awful struggles of the last sanguinary war! We have never heard of those exploits of Lord George Paulet, that gave him a claim for preferment in the eighth year of his service, or what made him more distinguished (except his name) than Dennis Gladwell or Richard Setford, who underwent the probation of eighteen years—seven of which were during the period of a conflict in which we fought for our existence as a people! Look to the case of John

Bradley. He was a Midshipman in 1800, and was not made a Lieutenant until 1825, in which year also Richard Byron was promoted to the same rank, who did not enter the service until 1819—or 19 years after the former. Thus Lieutenant Bradley was doomed to a probation of 25 years, or a quarter of a century, as a Midshipman, during which period he must have seen 14 years of active war-service, while Lieutenant Byron experienced only 6 years of peaceful service altogether, and could never have seen a gun fired on board a British ship but on the occasion of a salute. This system, or the glory of our flag, must cease to exist!

Return of the number of MIDSHIPMEN promoted to the Rank of LIEUTENANT in the Royal Navy, between 1st January 1825 and 1st January 1826, stating the Name of each Person so promoted, and the date of Entry into the Service.

Name.	Date of Entry into the Service
Richard Napper	1 March 1809
David Steel	31 March 1809
William Walter Oke	2 April 1809
William Cress Simmons	12 December 1807
George Hamilton Smith	4 July 1808
Laurence George Carrington	26 December 1807
Joseph William Brown	20 July 1807
William Squire	19 July 1805
Charles Goldsmith	6 July 1806
James Truppo	31 August 1808
Humphrey Jeston	9 June 1807
James Howard Turner	10 August 1808
Henry Kitchen	17 September 1807
James Thompson	16 July 1809
George Hingston	28 April 1807
Robert Poole	14 May 1808
William Hewlett	10 July 1807
James Henry Richard Wilson	4 June 1813
William Griffin	23 August 1812
Samuel Williams	16 June 1813
William George Buchan	6 August 1813
George Percy Rosenberg	1 April 1815
William Glennie	14 August 1812
Russell Elliott	16 November 1815
Thomas Jones	20 July 1809
John Bradley	18 September 1800
Robert James Longrishe	4 January 1815
William Langford Castle	19 May 1813
Charles Blyth	30 September 1807
William Warren	24 March 1809
Lord George Paulet	6 February 1817
William Dent Hedley	22 June 1810
Thomas Hamilton	14 July 1812

Name.	Date of Entry into the Service.
George Snell .....	14 September..... 1812
Archibald Meheux .....	26 October..... 1811
Richard Cotgrave.....	30 October..... 1810
Philip Paleston Wynn.....	24 April..... 1815
Arthur James Douglas.....	24 February..... 1816
George Edward Western.....	1 May..... 1817
Lawford Miles.....	4 August..... 1806
Richard Byron.....	4 May..... 1819
Hon. Frederick William Grey...	18 January..... 1816
James P. O. Ferrall.....	29 December..... 1808
William Broughton.....	15 March..... 1818
Thos. Raikes Trigge Thompson..	19 February..... 1818
John Coghlan Fitzgerald.....	24 October..... 1812
James Small.....	14 November..... 1809
Thomas Lorey Roberts.....	6 February..... 1805
Thomas Ross Sullivan.....	25 January..... 1811
William Clement Swinfen.....	3 January..... 1816
Alexander Clotworthy Dawson ..	25 August..... 1814
Edward Barnaby Tinkling.....	6 July..... 1814
Frederick Hutton.....	28 January..... 1813
Richard Freeman Rowley.....	4 February..... 1819
Robert Robinson.....	30 November..... 1805
Graham Hewitt.....	22 February..... 1808
Alexander Robeson.....	1 September..... 1808
Henry Joseph Hill.....	8 July..... 1806
Charles Moss.....	1 September..... 1808
Joseph Proctor.....	15 April..... 1808
Matthew Comb.....	30 June..... 1808
Dennis Gladwell.....	30 August..... 1807
Richard Setford.....	26 June..... 1807
Thomas Brent.....	7 June..... 1808
George Whichelo.....	16 June..... 1807
William Wright.....	12 January..... 1808
Henry Gerard.....	23 December..... 1807
James Pratt.....	13 July..... 1808
Hugh Somerville Burniston.....	19 November..... 1808
James Mullins.....	6 October..... 1811
John Alexander Duntz.....	6 August..... 1818
Hon. J. Fred. Fitzgerald De Ros	10 March..... 1818
Craven John Featherstone.....	16 November..... 1811
George Leslie.....	30 September..... 1809
Frederick John Foster.....	24 April..... 1812
Tollett Pennell.....	14 February..... 1818
Henry Bull.....	5 December..... 1813
Henry Sacheverall Wilmot.....	28 April..... 1813
John Onebye Bliss.....	30 October..... 1812
Thomas Thorpe Fowke.....	22 June..... 1816
Green Nicholls.....	2 April..... 1808
William Gray (B.).....	29 April..... 1808
George Benjamin Bunbury Isaac	14 August..... 1812
George Lyali.....	9 December..... 1813
Richard Hammond White.....	15 September..... 1813
Francis Crockatt.....	21 July..... 1808
Robert Mann.....	16 May..... 1810
Francis North Clerk.....	20 January..... 1810
Croker Barrington.....	16 November..... 1811
Thomas Gethy George.....	6 April..... 1809
George Henry Pariby Wight.....	20 November..... 1816
George Goldfinch.....	26 June..... 1807
Alexander Schank White.....	4 November..... 1816

Name.	Date of Entry into the Service.
Henry Lister Mawe.....	11 May ..... 818
John Henry Jackson.....	27 July ..... 1808
Lewis David.....	3 July ..... 1809
William Marshall.....	3 January..... 1807
David Rymer.....	27 September..... 1810
William Tomlin Griffiths.....	28 January..... 1814
William Pendock Cowling.....	26 March ..... 1812
Edward Biffin.....	3 June ..... 1813
John Holland.....	1 January..... 1808
Walter Cross.....	5 April ..... 1813
William Woolridge.....	23 July ..... 1815
Edward Franklin.....	26 March ..... 1810
Thomas Pownoll Pellew Barrow..	16 October..... 1818
William Charles Webber.....	1 September..... 1809
Zachariah Mudge.....	8 December..... 1811
William Arlett.....	27 August ..... 1812
George William Howe Fitzroy...	6 March..... 1817
William Wellesley.....	1 August ..... 1819
Augustus Bolton.....	29 March ..... 1810
Henry Alexander Breedon.....	23 March ..... 1809
John Sibly.....	16 May ..... 1811
Francis Wall Justice.....	13 February ..... 1811
Jos. Augustus William Hill.....	10 December..... 1811
William Hornby.....	21 August ..... 1811
Charles Dimock.....	22 May ..... 1812
Charles Bolton.....	24 July ..... 1813
William Breedon.....	23 January..... 1813
Malcolm M'Neale.....	1 April ..... 1814
William Crispin.....	6 July ..... 1813
Hon. Edward Roper Curzon.....	16 November..... 1815
Bird Allen.....	2 October ..... 1817
William Duncan Miller.....	5 November..... 1811
William Lyons.....	20 March ..... 1810
Alexander Bell Lowe.....	27 February..... 1809
William M'Dowall.....	1 March ..... 1812
Thomas Hope.....	18 August ..... 1809
Charles Morley Adams.....	16 June..... 1816
Charles Julius Seecombe.....	10 May ..... 1815
Archibald Reed.....	6 April ..... 1815
William Clapp.....	10 June ..... 1809
Richard Dowse.....	20 July ..... 1810
Arthur Kellelt.....	24 June..... 1811
Charles Hotham.....	6 November..... 1818
Edward Kelly.....	2 November..... 1810
George Trolloppe.....	15 February..... 1811
John Jeayes.....	14 April ..... 1813
William Murray.....	22 January..... 1813
John Brunton.....	28 March ..... 1803
Berkley Westropp.....	2 April ..... 1810
Total 141	

To Mr. COBBETT.

*Bolton-le-Moore, 17th April, 1826.*

MY DEAR SIR,

We have seen your Address to the people of Bolton, on the Feast

of the Gridiron, with your observations on the same, which observations are just; as you will believe, Sir, when we inform you that we had no knowledge of that accursed book which you have

described. If we had had any knowledge of that circumstance, depend upon it we should have hissed the person from the room that dared to give the health of such a monster.

I will now proceed to give you a faithful detail of all the particulars relative to this feast. First, a committee was formed to arrange matters. John Hayes, that you so often speak of in the Register, was one of this committee; we had a meeting prior to the feast; John Hayes brought forward a list of the toasts and submitted them to the committee; a discussion ensued on finding the name of Carlile connected with the toasts. It was asked, Did Carlile write in favour of the people, or did he write on paper money? One of the committee answered in the affirmative; on which the toast was revised on the spot, for it was connected with too much bombast. The committee made inquiries the next day after Carlile's remarks on the paper money; but their search was in vain, and some of the committee erased the name of Carlile from the list.

We met at the time appointed to celebrate the feast, and all went on well for a considerable time. To give full opportunity to all your friends to attend, we left every one to his own discretion what to spend. About nine o'clock there came a person into the room, his name is John Cameron, and he is a Scotchman; I was on my feet at the time, showing the utility of your History of the Reformation, together with the good it was likely to produce in the end by driving the monster of prejudice from the land, without

which Catholic emancipation never could be obtained. As soon as I sat down, this same Cameron rose and addressed the chair. He commenced with a personal attack on me; he then proceeded to ridicule you, and went so far as to call you a liar, respecting your statement of the Scotch markets. He was called to order, but would not obey, so it was determined to let him go on; he said that the Christians gave so much interruption that he lost his clue, and he sat down amidst loud laughter.

The Chairman got through the routine of toasts agreed to by the Committee, and all went on well again; when, to our great astonishment, John Hayes rose up and gave the health of Richard Carlile. It was by no means universally drank. To the best of our knowledge it was drank by six persons, and the gentleman of the Chronicle was in that number. So that, you see, the toast did not come from the chair, and the fault rests with the Chronicle for embodying this offensive toast with what came from the chair; for there were other toasts that were not inserted, so that the Chronicle is worthy of censure. We give our disapprobation of this toast, with our consent that you may make it public if you think proper.

By order of the Chairman and Committee.

JOHN O'BRIEN,

Secretary.

(From the Morning Herald of  
Thursday, 20th April.)

## SECONDARIES OFFICE.

WEDNESDAY.

FARLAR T. COBBETT.

THIS was a Writ of Inquiry, executed before the Under Sheriffs at the office of the Sheriff of Middlesex, to assess the amount of debt due to the plaintiff, the defendant having suffered judgment to go by default.

Mr. Adolphus stated the case to the Jury. He said he was afraid that the Jury on hearing the names of the parties, and seeing that the defendant was present to defend himself in person, would form expectations that were likely to be disappointed, as far as he (Mr. A.) was concerned. Mr. Cobbett was known to all the world—at least wherever the English language was known; but there was nothing of a political character in the transactions before them. It was simply an inquiry whether Mr. Farlar ought to receive 32*l*. which he claimed to be due to him, and if not that sum, how much less. The charge was for goods sold. Such being the case, he should not so far forget his duty as to diverge from it in any degree, for the purpose of extraneous observation, and irrelevant declamation. The plaintiff was the owner of the patent for the manufacture of certain machines usually denominated "Needham's Patent Brewing Machines." In June 1821, defendant called at plaintiff's shop, where he saw one of plaintiff's shopmen, named Adams, and after stating that he had received from

as friend a very favourable report respecting the plaintiff's brewing machine, he desired to be supplied with a one-bushel machine, which was shortly afterwards delivered and paid for. On the 1st of August following, defendant published No. 1 of his work entitled "Cobbett's Cottage Economy," in which he noticed the plaintiff's brewing machine in the most favourable terms. Mr. Cobbett deemed it a most useful invention—there were his own words for it. That writer desired to promote brewing, especially amongst the working classes, hoping that thereby would be superseded the use of ardent spirits. The avowed object, thus to become the benefactor of his fellow-men, reflected credit on the writer; the object was calculated to reflect more real glory than victories. As already mentioned, soon after the purchase of a small machine, Mr. Cobbett commenced his "Cottage Economy." That work he had never read, but he knew those who had, and he deemed it only just to say, that they spoke of it in the highest terms: he did not mean to imply that he would not read such a work—in truth, he was like some of the birds about the house in which they were assembled that were "born and bred in bottles." His time was wholly occupied with his professional pursuits; he was either in the Courts, at Sessions, or on Circuit, and could know nothing of the subjects discussed in "Cottage Economy," except what he might hear from others. The first number praised the machine, and in a subsequent number of it, drawings of the machine were introduced, with a prospectus of its particular merits,



but all paid for, as they ought to be, by the plaintiff, it being to his advantage to have the machine well known. After such period Mr. Cobbett sent, from time to time, to the Brewing Machine Manufactory, for various articles, "two more eighteen gallon casks, &c." The account eventually was as follows :

Cobbett Debt r to Farlar,		
1821—August 4. Two 18-gallon Bell Casks .....	£1	10 0
1822—March 11. Three 27 ditto, ditto. . . . .	3	0 0
One 18 ditto, ditto. . . . .	0	15 0
12. A four-bushel Patent Brewing Machine, second-hand, No. 905 ..		
One pair of four-bushel Coolers (1073)	18	0 0
	9	0 0
	£32	5 0

Somehow or another the plaintiff followed up the delivery of the goods with the speedy demand for the money; whether that was right or wrong he did not pretend to say; but such was the fact, as he was instructed. A portion of the goods came back with a long letter; in reality a dissertation on the inutility of the goods previously praised and bought. Mr. Farlar would not take them in: they were sent back to Mr. Cobbett's, and there they remained to this day. A settlement was sought, but in vain, and therefore this action was brought. He was prepared to prove the order by Mr. Cobbett's letter. The first was, after having had the one-bushel machine,—

Mr. Farlar,

Mr. Cobbett wants to-morrow two more eighteen-gallon casks; and he wants to speak to Mr. Farlar about the price of the *Brewing machines*; because several persons have made representations to Mr. Cobbett on the subject.

Kensington, Aug. 3, 1821.

The next order was in this letter:—

Kensington, March 6, 1822.

Dear Sir—You will please to send me, not to-morrow, but on *Saturday*, the four bushel machine and the coolers (which, I find, I want), and also three *half hogsheads* and one eighteen gallon cask. If you wish me to explain what you were talking about, in my last Number of *Cottage Economy*, pray let me see you *here* on Monday or Tuesday next; as the last Number will be published the latter end of next week; and, you will observe, that then the thing will be in a *volume*, and will be for sale *for years to come*.—I am, your most obedient and most humble servant,

Mr. Farlar. Wm. COBBETT.

This showed that the parties were on friendly terms at such time (March 6); that there was then no complaint of the machine; but on the 21st of that same month, Mr. C. had the goods (ordered on the 6th) sent back with the following letter :

Dear Sir,—The bearer will deliver you back the four-bushel brewing machine; and it is necessary that I explain my reasons for returning it. My man, who has been used to brewing home-brewed beer in the country, always insisted, that the machine made the beer *flat*, and that the beer did not keep so well as if brewed in the old way, with a copper and mash-vat. I ascribed this to his prejudice and obstinacy. We made a trial in August; and, when we tapped, in November, it really did appear, that the wood had a great superiority over the iron. I still thought, however, that there must have been some foul play; and had no doubt of the perfectness of the machine, until yesterday. But, I myself attended to, and assisted in, a brewing of two casks of beer, on the 25th of December, one in the wood, and one in the machine. Malt, hops, yeast, heats, all were precisely the same. These two casks of beer were tapped yesterday. They had been kept in a cellar of

which Mrs. Cobbett kept the key. I had not the smallest doubt of the beer being the same in both. But, before we used the new machine, we thought it right to see the result of the experiment; and I am, I assure you, very surprised to find there is a very great difference in the beer of the two casks, the one brewed in the iron being *flat* and carrying *no head*: and the other being brisk, and carrying a fine foam on it. In addition to this, I have to state, that we some time ago (two months perhaps) had some ale that was very much praised by all the ale-drinkers of my family, as well as by others who occasionally partook of it; and upon my referring to that yesterday, as a proof of the goodness of the machine, it came out that a young man, out of Sussex, who was in my service at the time when that was brewed, *brewed it in the wood*. I was from home at the time, and he and his fellow servant sat up and carried on their brewing in the night, so that their mistress did not know what they had done, until they had done it. These facts convince me, that the wood is best for beer that is to be kept any length of time; and, as I am now about to brew for the summer, I cannot venture on the machine for that purpose. It certainly does make the beer *flat*, and takes from it the *keeping quality*. I am no chemist, and can say nothing at all about the cause, any more than I can about the cause of beer being so much better out of a wooden bottle than it is out of a tin canteen; or about porter being better out of a pewter pot than out of a tin pot. The fact is all I know any thing about. The machine is so *handy* a thing, and does the work so *quickly*, compared with the wood, that I should keep, for the making of *small beer*, the machine that you have been so good as to send me; the taste of small beer being of less consequence, and it not being intended for *keeping*; and, I shall now use my *little one* sometimes for that purpose; but, the result of the fair experiments above mentioned being such as I

have described it, and my duty to my readers compelling me to state that result through the same channel that conveyed my erroneous expectations, I should deem it very unjust to retain the present, which you have in so handsome a manner, made me, and for which I beg you to accept of the thanks which are due to your obliging intention.—I am, dear Sir, your most humble obedient servant,  
WM. COBBETT.

Kensington, March 21, 1822.

Mr. Farlar,  
Brewing Machine Factory, Piccadilly.

Here, then, was the plaintiff's case. The two first letters showed the orders; and there was nothing to warrant the expectation of the statement at the conclusion of the third letter, that the four-bushel machine was sent to Mr. Cobbett as a "Present," and not in compliance with an order. In stating the case, he hoped he had done no more than his duty; he had endeavoured strictly to confine himself to it. Perhaps Mr. Cobbett, as an honest man, thought he was entitled to pursue the course he had done regarding the plaintiff's demand; but, thank God, it was not Mr. Cobbett's opinion, nor his (Mr. A.'s) opinion, nor that of other individuals that could decide it—the twelve Gentlemen of the Jury must decide between the parties.

Mr. Cobbett admitted the writing of the letters, which were then formally read by the Under Sheriff.

Mr. Wetherby examined.—He said, in 1821 and 1822, he was in the employ of Mr. Farlar; the patent had since been sold. He was in the employ of the purchaser. He remembered the sale of the casks, value 30s.

Mr. Cobbett.—I admit such purchase.

Benjamin Adams said he was

in the employ of Mr. Farlar. In 1822, he remembered the goods being sent to Mr. Cobbett, and the return of a machine. It was not taken in, but sent back to Mr. Cobbett, and he had since seen it on Mr. C.'s premises. The items, casks and coolers, as per account (given in the Counsel's speech), were regularly delivered and charged.

In cross-examination by Mr. Cobbett, he said he saw Mr. C. at the factory several times with Mr. Farlar; but he had no recollection of ever having heard Mr. F. saying any thing about giving Mr. C. the four-bushel machine. He was near them while they were talking, yet heard nothing of the kind.

Mr. Cobbett. — I admit, and have admitted all along, that I owe for the barrels; but the machine was given to me.

Mr. ADOLPHUS asked witness, whether Mr. F. had ever been in the habit of giving away the articles of his trade? — No.

Mr. Cobbett then addressed the Jury. He said that he had now been a housekeeper twenty-four years, sometimes in one place, sometimes in another, dealing in the course of that time with perhaps more than a thousand tradesmen, but never till now had any tradesman brought him into a Court of Law. The demand which he resisted was 27*l*.; but he would tell the Jury, notwithstanding the importance of this season of the year to him, had the amount been only 27 pence, he should have appeared there and thrown himself on a Jury. He had to thank the Counsel for the decorous manner in which he had conducted himself towards him (Mr. C.) personally;

and he might add that, in his judgment, the Counsel had conducted the case ably, the statements being founded, of course, on instructions given. But he must tell the Jury a true story. It was not so much to resist the payment of 27*l*. as that true information of his opinion of the machine should find its way to the public, that he pursued the course he now did. The statement respecting the publication and objects of "Cottage Economy" were correct. It was his most anxious wish to better the condition of tradesmen and labourers; amongst other things to enable them, and to induce them to brew their own beer. When about to begin the publication of "Cottage Economy," a friend in Sussex told him of this brewing machine, mentioning it as saving expense and taking up less room. That friend took him to Mr. Farlar's shop. He would remark here, that four years had been allowed to elapse since the transaction, and before the action was brought; and not till Mr. F. had parted with his patenteeship. He had been all along ready to pay for what he bought. Having gone to the shop, he saw, with delight, the machine, and considered that if it answered the purposes represented, it was a valuable improvement. Not being wanting in zeal in any thing he undertook, he bought a one-bushel machine, and having brewed with it, he, in the first number of "Cottage Economy," spoke of the machine favourably; but, at the same time, stating that he had not yet had experience enough of it; if, on a further trial, he found it not to answer the expectations he had formed, he would say so. This was in the summer of 1821;

soon after the appearance of his first number—having had no motive but to promote the interests and comforts of the poorer classes. Mr. F. visited him, and wished him to take a share in the business of manufacturing the machines. This he declined, and all sort of interest in it, as he might have to express his disapprobation of the machine. But he thought he might at the time have said—"If the machine succeed in realizing my expectations, and if my mention of it do you any good, you may give me a larger one, and take back the small machine." And he thought something of the same kind was proposed by his friend. Matters went on thus till 1822, when the last number of "Cottage Economy" was about to appear. He went to Mr. F.'s shop, and said, "As I am now about to brew for the summer, I will thank you for the larger machine, which you are to give me." He agreed, mentioning a second-hand one, also coolers; and on finding that the coolers would be wanted, he sent the second letter. On being sent home, he was, after a good deal of conversation, informed and convinced of the failure of the machine; that it made the beer flat, &c.; and that to have briskness and head, it was requisite to brew in wood. He then sent them back, with the letter which had been read, assigning his reasons for not keeping the machine; he being about, in honesty to the public, to state that his expectations had not been realized. As to payment for them, or any action on account of them, nothing of the kind, he believed, was thought of till Mr. F. had disposed of the patent, and till proof of the utter

worthlessness of the machine could no longer injure him. The beer brewed in these machines was flat, and nothing like so good as the brewing in wood; and, in fairness and honesty towards the public, however they might call in question his sagacity, in his last number he intimated such change in his opinion. As he could no longer praise the machine, he thought he ought not to keep the present, and in nine days afterwards he sent it back. Mr. F. was under obligations to him, as indeed had been repeatedly expressed; but seeing that he could no longer praise, Mr. F. seemed to have said, "I will punish you; I will make you pay for your censure." He would prove by Mr. Clement, then his clerk, but now no longer such, that Mr. F. said he should give the larger machine for the extra trouble that had been taken; and having heard such evidence, he had only to desire the Jury not to spare him, but to render him justice. Whatever they decided, he should approve; the demand having been made, he thought it his duty to appear before a Jury. He would not trouble them further.

Charles Clement, formerly in Mr. Cobbett's employment, stated that he remembered the publication; the introduction of plates of the machine, &c.; particularly that Mr. Farlar on one occasion told him, he (Mr. F.) intended to make Mr. Cobbett a present of a large machine for the trouble he had taken. He also proposed to witness to purchase the small machine on the larger one being sent to Mr. Cobbett. He clearly understood that it was to be a present to Mr. C.; that Mr. F. was

to give Mr. C. the larger brewing machine. He did not recollect any thing being said about coolers, &c.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Adolphus*.—This conversation took place sometime between Michaelmas 1821, and the next half-year. The advertisements, &c., were all paid for by Mr. Farlar. He could not recollect the exact time of the conversation, but he was pretty certain it was when he saw Mr. F. after Nov. 1821.

Mr. John Cobbett (defendant's son) proved that the larger machine had never been used.

Mr. *Adolphus* replied at considerable length, observing that many points had been introduced that were irrelevant; but though Counsel snapped up one another quickly enough when wanderings were observed, they did not do so with a layman. He maintained that there was not distinct proof of any present; and as to delay in bringing the action, all possible means had been tried for settlement before it was brought. Mr. F. had not begun on getting rid of the patent; it had been disposed of more than three years; but Mr. Cobbett was a person with whom individuals would not be anxious to come into competition. They would try all means of adjustment. As to the claim, loose conversation was not to be set against Mr. Cobbett's own documents.

Mr. Cobbett (after some contention as to his right) begged to read the conclusion of "Cottage Economy" on this subject. In No. VII., published 1st of March, 1822, he inserted the following:—"N.B. Having in the former Numbers spoken of *brewing machines*, I cannot conclude my work without stating that further expe-

rience has induced me to resolve to *discontinue* the use of all sorts of brewing machines, and to use the *old sort of utensils*."—Now (said Mr. C.) if it be not probable that Mr. F. would give a machine after this—is it probable that I should buy one after such a declaration?

Mr. *Adolphus* interrupted Mr. Cobbett's further progress, and said he must require the rules of the Court to be enforced.

Mr. Cobbett smiled, and sat down.

The *Under-Sheriff* having summed up,

The Jury (after nearly half an hour's consultation) returned a verdict for 14l. 5s.—the Foreman stating that the Jury were of opinion that the larger machine was a gift to Mr. Cobbett.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending April 15.

Per Quarter.			
	s.	d.	s. d.
Wheat ..	59	4	Rye .... 35 10
Barley ..	32	6	Beans ... 36 11
Oats ....	23	6	Pease ... 37 9

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended April 15.

Qrs.		Qrs.	
Wheat ..	41,394	Rye ....	577
Barley ..	24,914	Beans ...	3,147
Oats ...	31,569	Pease ...	508

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

Friday, April 21.—The supply to this morning's market was moderate of all kinds of Grain, and also of Flour. Prime samples of Wheat went off at Monday's prices, but inferior qualities were without demand. Barley may be quoted 1s. to 2s.

lower. Beans and Pease without alteration. The Oat trade was exceedingly dull, at last quotations.

Monday, April 24.—During the past week the arrivals of all descriptions of Grain were tolerably good, and of Flour the quantity was considerable. To this morning's market there is a fair supply of Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, but not much Corn up from the more distant ports. The prime samples of Wheat have sold slowly at last week's prices; other sorts are very dull and hardly support last quotations.

The season being over for Malting, best samples of Barley have declined 2s. per quarter from the terms of this day se'nnight; Grinding samples sell heavily, but not at a proportionate reduction. Beans and Pease are without alteration from last week's terms. Good sweet parcels of Oats meet a limited sale, at the rates last quoted; other descriptions are heavy in disposal, and 1s. per quarter lower. The same uncertainty exists about the top price of Flour as noted last Monday, but the most general quotation is 58s.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, April 15.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat...	5,443	for	16,859	7	0	Average, 61 11
Barley...	3,046	..	5,208	14	7	34 2
Oats...	12,436	..	16,682	14	4	26 9
Rye...	66	..	106	16	0	32 4
Beans...	970	..	1,877	5	9	38 8
Pease...	266	..	524	18	3	39 5

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from April 10 to April 22, both inclusive.

	Qrs.	Tares	Qrs.
Wheat...	5,604	—	—
Barley ..	4,852	Linseed ..	445
Malt....	7,578	Rapeseed ..	—
Oats ....	463	Brank ..	52
Beans ...	83	Mustard ..	7
Flour ....	11,004	Flax ....	—
Rye ....	—	Hemp ....	—
Pease....	429	Seeds ...	527
Foreign.—Wheat 100, and Oats 1558 quarters.			

## HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, April 24.—Our Hop Market last week has much improved, and orders, generally from the country, have nearly cleared this market of New Pockets, which have advanced from 20s. to 25s. per cwt.; 1824, 10s. to 15s., and all sorts of good Old are inquired after at improving prices. Accounts from Kent state the fruit trees have considerable vermin upon them, and a great deal of flea on the Hop-grounds, and should this be followed by fly, which is very probable, Hops will rapidly advance.

Maidstone, April 20.—The Hop Trade has been much brisker this week, and several lots of last year's growth have been sold at from 20s. to 30s. per cwt. advance.

Worcester, April 19.—On Saturday 170 pockets were weighed; business was more brisk, and prices advanced from 5s. to 10s. per cwt.

City, 26th April, 1826.

## BACON.

There is very little consumed just at this time; and as almost every thing is done for ready money, the cheesemongers buy sparingly. Upon the whole the market seems to be on the decline. On board, 48s.; Landed, 50s. for the best.

## BUTTER.

New Butter is now coming in in great abundance, and is selling at prices greatly below what the stale and inferior kinds brought a short time ago: consequently the stocks of the latter description (which are considerable) will be left to be sold as grease. There is a great quantity of foreign in bond, for which very little more than the amount of the duty and expenses could now be obtained!—Best Dutch, 84s. Carlow, 68s. to 70s. Waterford, 64s. to 66s.

## CHEESE.

No material variation.

## POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10	to	5 0
Middlings.....	2 10	—	2 15
Chats.....	2 10	—	0 0
Common Red..	0 0	—	0 0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.		

BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 0	to	5 10
Middlings.....	2 0	—	3 0
Chats.....	2 0	—	0 0
Common Red..	0 0	—	0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay... 65s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 40s.

Clover... 86s. to 110s.

St. James's.—Hay... 65s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 45s.

Clover... 80s. to 95s.

Whitechapel.—Hay... 68s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 42s.

Clover... 80s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.
Aylesbury.....	69	70 0	34	37 0	27	30 0	40	44 0	45	0 0
Banbury.....	64	69 4	32	35 0	24	29 0	40	50 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke.....	56	68 0	30	35 0	24	27 0	48	52 0	0	0 0
Bridport.....	48	62 0	30	32 0	21	26 0	48	0 0	0	0 0
Chelmsford.....	60	74 0	29	32 0	25	32 0	32	34 0	36	38 0
Derby.....	67	70 0	28	34 0	24	29 0	38	44 0	0	0 0
Devizes.....	42	68 0	32	38 0	26	32 0	42	52 0	0	0 0
Dorchester.....	50	64 0	27	32 0	23	27 0	48	50 0	0	0 0
Exeter.....	70	76 0	38	40 0	24	27 0	28	32 0	0	0 0
Eye.....	56	64 0	32	36 0	24	30 0	36	40 0	34	38 0
Guildford.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley.....	58	75 0	28	36 0	24	30 0	44	52 0	46	52 0
Horncastle.....	58	60 0	24	30 0	20	24 0	36	40 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	52	74 0	25	35 0	20	31 0	40	56 0	0	0 0
Lewes.....	56	66 0	0	0 0	23	25 0	40	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury.....	42	76 0	28	33 0	23	32 0	42	48 0	44	48 0
Northampton.....	56	64 0	30	35 0	22	32 0	35	42 0	0	0 0
Nottingham.....	63	0 0	31	0 0	26	0 0	42	0 0	0	0 0
Reading.....	60	77 0	28	37 0	20	30 0	44	50 0	43	50 0
Stamford.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket.....	52	66 0	24	30 0	23	27 0	31	0 0	0	0 0
Swansea.....	62	0 0	30	0 0	20	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro.....	64	0 0	35	0 0	29	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warrminster.....	52	64 0	27	37 0	24	28 0	46	56 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith*.....	31	35 0	20	27 0	19	23 6	17	19 0	16	18 0
Haddington*.....	27	33 6	21	29 0	15	21 0	16	20 0	15	19 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

*Liverpool*, April 18.—The winds having continued favourable both coastwise and from Ireland, the arrivals of Oats have been pretty considerable, those of Wheat and other articles but moderate. Oats were taken off freely by country buyers during the past week, and Wheat was in fair demand, at about the prices of this day se'night. This day's market was well attended, when sales of Wheat, Oats, Flour, and Oatmeal, were effected to a fair extent, at fully the prices of Tuesday last. Malt declined 1s., and Malting Barley 2s. per quarter.

Imported into *Liverpool* from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 5,071; Barley, 717; Oats, 16,299; Malt, 639; Beans, 28; and Pease, 23 quarters. Flour, 4,819 sacks; per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 1,825 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Norwich*, April 22.—We had a very large supply of Wheat to-day, more than found purchasers unless at less money, there were also many samples of Barley offered for sale, and the Malting season being nearly over, great difficulty in selling them; Red Wheat sold from 54s. to 61s.; White to 64s.; Barley 23s. to 29s.; Oats 22s. to 30s.; Beans 32s. to 39s.; Pease 36s. to 40s. per quarter; and Flour, 45s. to 47s. per sack.

*Bristol*, April 22.—Little is doing here in Corn, &c. at present. Supplies moderate. The prices of what is disposed of are about as follows:—Wheat, from 5s. to 8s.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 9d.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 3d.; Beans, 3s. 6d. to 6s.; and Malt, 5s. to 7s. 3d. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 47s. per bag.

*Ipswich*, April 22.—Our market to-day was pretty well supplied with Corn, and prices were much as last week, as follow:—Wheat 56s. to 65s.; Barley, 28s. to 34s.; Beans, 37s. to 39s.; and Pease, 38s. per quarter.

*Wisbech*, April 22.—This market to-day was abundantly supplied with fine conditioned Wheat, which with Oats, and Beans, sold about the same as last week.—Red Wheat, 54s. to 60s.; White ditto, 60s. to 62s.; Oats, 20s. to 24s.; and Beans, 34s. to 38s. per imperial qr.

*Wakefield*, April 21.—A decline of 1s. per quarter has taken place upon all descriptions of Wheat, of which there was a good supply at the market. Oats and Shelling being scarce, fully maintain last week's prices. Barley is dull of sale, at a decline of 2s. per quarter, and only fine fresh quality saleable for malting is in demand. Rapeseed continues unsaleable.

*Manchester*, April 22.—We have had but a thin attendance of dealers at our market to-day, and prices have given way a trifle. The stock of Grain here and in *Liverpool* is small, and confidence almost destroyed, that quotations are merely nominal, as last week.

*Newcastle-on-Tyne*, April 22.—Having but a small supply of Wheat to-day from the farmers, the whole was readily taken off at an advance of 1s. and 2s. per quarter from the prices of last Saturday. In Rye there is still very little doing. The weather having become warm, the maltsters here have this week almost entirely ceased purchasing Barley. A farther reduction in prices must, therefore, be the consequence. The sale of Malt continues to be as dull as possible. Notwithstanding we had to-day a large supply of Oats, the prices of last Saturday were fully supported.—Wheat, new, 52s. to 61s.; Foreign, 48s. to 54s.; Rye, 40s. to 42s.; Foreign, 32s. to 36s.; Barley, 30s. to 32s.; Foreign, 25s. to 30s.; Malt, 52s. to 58s.; Oats, 21s. to 26s.; Foreign, 19s. to 21s.; Beans, 42s. to 46s.; Pease, White, 48s. to 50s. per quarter, Imperial measure. Flour, 45s. per sack.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, April 22.—Our market was exceedingly well supplied with Cattle for slaughter to-day, and a great many of them remained unsold. Prices from 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14lbs., sinking offal. The supply of Store Stock was also very large; the Scots were not of very good quality, prices from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone, when fat; Short Horns from 3s. to 4s. Hoggets from 22s. to 35s.; and an excellent lot of fat ones to 44s.; Ewes and Lambs from 34s. to 42s. per couple. Pigs in great plenty, fat ones to 6s. 6d. per stone.

*Horncastle*, April 22.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Pork, 5½d. to 6½d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, there was a very great supply of Cattle, although there were also many buyers, the sale was very dull, at a reduction in price. There being a short supply of Sheep, they sold readily at an advance in price.—Beef, from 5s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.; and Mutton, 7s. 6d. to 9s. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended April 15, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	61	11	34	2	26	9
Essex	63	5	34	0	25	3
Kent	62	0	33	8	25	6
Sussex	56	9	31	3	23	8
Suffolk	59	0	33	3	26	9
Cambridgeshire	57	8	28	6	22	3
Norfolk	57	6	30	2	26	4
Lincolnshire	60	6	31	6	21	0
Yorkshire	59	0	31	0	22	0
Durham	59	9	34	6	27	3
Northumberland	56	2	32	3	24	9
Cumberland	63	2	32	3	22	8
Westmoreland	65	6	38	8	24	6
Lancashire	65	0	0	0	26	4
Cheshire	64	4	41	9	23	6
Gloucestershire	63	9	36	0	24	4
Somersetshire	61	11	34	1	20	6
Monmouthshire	63	1	38	4	23	6
Devonshire	60	0	31	10	19	0
Cornwall	60	5	31	5	24	10
Dorsetshire	58	4	30	7	24	1
Hampshire	57	11	31	7	25	2
North Wales	63	11	35	11	21	6
South Wales	59	2	29	6	17	1

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

Vol. 58, No. 6.] LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1826. [Price 6d.



"Judges ought, above all, to remember the conclusion of the Roman  
"Twelve Tables; *salus populi suprema lex*; the safety of the people is the  
"highest law."....BACON'S ESSAYS.

TO

## THE PRETTY GENTLEMEN OF WHITEHALL.

Kensington, 2d May, 1826.

PRETTY GENTLEMEN,

How often have I told you, that shock upon shock, mess after mess, mire after mire, would be your lot, unless you had the courage to adopt the measures pointed out to you by the Norfolk Petition? Only a twelvemonth ago, less than a twelvemonth ago, you were exulting, and making the King exult, in the general and permanent prosperity of the country, as you called it. This was only nine months ago. Since that

day you have had "*late* panic"; and now you have present panic of a far more terrific description. You have a considerable portion of the people in a state very nearly approaching to actual starvation, and that, too, in the midst of plenty. All ages and countries have seen seasons of scarcity and famine; all governments have had these evils, once in an age or two, arise under them; but you have seen two famines arise in the space of four years; and, while these famines were existing, there has not been a soul in the kingdom to

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

pretend that there has been any want of food in the kingdom. Yours is a system, then, that can produce starvation in the midst of plenty. This is one of the peculiar characteristics of your system, which, from its very nature, produces such effects. It is a system, which draws the fruit of men's labour into large masses; which unjustly takes from one man, and gives to another man; which takes from those who labour, and gives to those who do not labour; which prevents the fruit of labour from going into its proper channels; which defeats all the efforts of frugality, of foresight, of carefulness; under your system it is useless to rise early, to labour through the day, and to eat the bread of carefulness. God says, that man shall live by the sweat of his brow; your system says, that he shall starve by that sweat, and that those who sweat not shall fatten by it. God says, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox as he treadeth out the corn;" your system says, muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn, and put no muzzle on him that treadeth it not out. It is matter of perfect notoriety, that there are immense numbers of people in a state nearly approaching to that of starvation; that they are eating carrion where

they can get it; that they are slaughtering the cats for food; that they are eating grains, where they can get them, and that grains are things, which, alone, are insufficient food for the poorest of hogs. It is notorious, that, round the public-houses which brew their own beer in Lancashire, the poor famished creatures now assemble in crowds, and scramble to get mouthfuls of this residuum of the malt. These things are notorious; these things can be denied by nobody; and it is equally notorious, that, no longer than seven months ago, thanksgivings were put up in the churches for the great abundance of food with which God had blessed us.

Are not these matters worthy of the attention of statesmen? must there not be something radically wrong, when circumstances so hostile in their nature can co-exist in the same country; and when, at the same time, palaces are building at the public expense in every direction, and the salary of the trade minister is doubled? Does not such a combination of circumstances call for inquiry? In such a state of things, ought we to expect, from our Government, nothing but detached and isolated measures, putting a patch here and a patch there; and never,

upon any occasion, having the smallest tendency to probe the cause of the evil.

Upon some former occasions, you have been wonderfully assisted by the circumstance of the suffering parties having connected their wants with the deprivation of their political rights. Their complaints, the convulsive moments produced by their hunger, were all, then, instantly traced to motives of sedition. True, the poor creatures most humbly petitioned for their rights; but, their rights being refused, no attention was paid to their wants and their sufferings: to the rest of the community they were pointed out as aiming at the destruction of the happiest of governments. It was allowed that they might have some wants, to be sure; but, having dared to demand their rights, they were treated as incendiaries and rebels, proceeding under the colourable pretence of a want of food. The selfish and the base, who would see all mankind perish rather than experience the abatement of a fraction in the price of their jobbing annuities, instantly availed themselves of the calumniating accusation, and scoffed at the miserable sufferers.

You are not so lucky upon this

occasion; and, if my advice had been followed you would not have been so lucky before. In 1816 and 1817, I exhorted most earnestly Sir Francis Burdett, who was chairman of the Hampden Club in London, and Major Cartwright, who was the father of that Club, to which Club I never would belong; I exhorted them, I besought them, I prayed them, to desist from their project of forming branch clubs about the country, which they were, in the fall of 1816, beginning to do. I said, "Let them alone: it is not we who have brought the misery upon the people: let us not form them into bodies or societies, to have marks set upon them, to be accused of sedition, to be pounced upon and destroyed: the paper money is beginning its work in favour of reform: let it go on doing its own work; let us not interfere with it, and above all things, let us not expose innocent men to destruction." My advice was not followed; and the consequence was, that the system had a pretence of which it failed not to avail itself to the full extent.

Now, thank God, the system has no such pretence. It has no designing men to accuse; it has

no evil-disposed persons to charge with having aggravated the distresses; it is left to find out a cause where it can, and it will be much more cunning than the devil himself, if it find any cause that does not proceed from itself. I, and those who think with me, wish for parliamentary reform; we wish for a radical reform; we wish for a total change of this system; we wished for these things many years ago; we were, most of us, punished in some way or other for expressing that wish. You have had your way; you have done just what you pleased; there has been nobody to thwart you; and here you are, *at the end of eleven years of peace*, making a loan of eight millions of money, bewildered half to death by the natural effects of your own operations, having a late panic still tingling in your ears, and busy as bees at this moment, sending of troops by fly-boats, field-pieces by post, and artillery-men on the tops of coaches, to fight and subdue the starving multitudes, who are now existing, raging with famine, and pushed on by despair, in this very country, which, only nine months ago, you declared to be replete with prosperity, and which prosperity you cited as an indubitable proof of our being

calumniators when we humbly prayed for a reform of that parliament, under the operation of whose measures these dreadful calamities have arisen.

All, therefore, is your own work. Your work and that of the parliament. All is your own. You have neither radicals nor revolutionists, nor any body else to accuse. The blood that has now been shed and is shedding, you have not to lay at our door. It is entirely your own affair. Nobody has been instigated to resist you. On the contrary, ninety-nine hundredths of the press have laboured for you. It is a thing entirely of your own producing; and, for my part, I stand, except as far as relates to the real sufferings of the people, a mere spectator of the progress and the result. I think myself bound to suggest no remedy; I think myself bound to interfere in no way whatever. I am satisfied that the best way is to let you alone; but, at the same time, I have a right, in a pamphlet into which you compelled me to put two sheets and a quarter of paper, which you will not let me sell for less than sixpence, and which you will not suffer to go by post like a newspaper; in this sort of publication I have a right to remark

on the remedies which you have adopted; and also to remark on what I deem to be the cause of the evil. Your remedies are three-fold; that is to say, *troops, subscriptions, and relaxation of corn-laws*. Upon each of these, and especially upon the last, I shall have a good deal to say; but, first of all, I must speak of the cause of the suffering of the people.

This cause is, then, **WANT OF WAGES**. This want of wages arises from a want of employment; and this arises from the contraction that has recently taken place of the amount of the money in the country, while, at the same time, there has been no diminution in the nominal amount of taxation. This is the real cause. For four or five years past there has been a great abundance of money in circulation, great means of purchasing the goods made by the manufacturers. This money has, all of a sudden, been greatly diminished in quantity. The power of purchasing goods has, therefore, been greatly diminished. The gazettes are full of bankrupts; insolvents swarm in the gaols; every creature is pushed for money, to purchase even the bare necessities of life, consequently there is little to be expended on fineries. The ware-

houses of the manufacturers are glutted. The masters cannot sell the goods. They themselves are nearly ruined, and cannot employ the men. The men are without employment, consequently without wages and without food. A false paper-money created the factories and the machinery, and drew the people together in immense masses. The false paper-money is disappearing: to get gold and silver to supply its place, the world does not supply the means: the masses thus drawn together perish, and to preserve themselves from perishing, they verify the old proverb, that "hunger will break through stone walls." The system has here received a blow that it will never recover. This cause will go on working, till it has broken up the whole of these masses; till it has put an end to a thing so prodigious and so monstrous. For a short time the progress might be arrested by a restriction of the Bank, or something equivalent to it; but even that could not last long; and therefore the remedy which men of wisdom would contemplate, would be founded on a presumption, that the making of cotton goods sufficient to cover the surface of the island, is a thing as absurd as to propose to make a

blanket to hide the face of the sun.

Employment is the thing wanted. This is not to be obtained without a sale for the goods; that sale is not to be obtained without an increase of money in the country, and you have passed laws, not only to prevent that increase, but to cause a diminution of that quantity much lower than its present mark. Every thing is falling in price; the quantity of money daily decreases; the means of purchase diminish continually: how, then, is the demand for employment to revive?

Such being the real cause of the present suffering, let me next inquire a little into the nature of your remedies. As to the *troops*, I shall say nothing: the less that is said upon such a subject the better: I shall express neither *opinion* nor *wish*, though I have both upon the subject, and both *very decided*. As to the *subscription*: all charity is good, though I may observe, that if the charity had gone *before the troops*, it might have been full as well in fact, and would have *looked* a good deal better. One thing may be observed; and that is, that we heard of the sufferings *two months ago*; that we heard of the people's eating *horse-flesh* and *druff*; that we

heard of the frightful aspect of thousands upon thousands of starving creatures; that we heard of sufferings enough to harrow up the soul; and that we never did hear of any subscription recommended by you, or by any body else, nor of any measure of relief adopted by you, until the news arrived that the people had "*overpowered the military*." This fact, though stated in *all* the public prints, has been denied, and it possibly may not be true; but certain it is, that, on the day on which it was first promulgated, came forth the requisition to the Lord-Mayor to hold a meeting at the Mansion-House, for the purpose of subscribing. This work of subscribing has now been recommended by the Ministers, by you, from your seats in Parliament, than which any thing more low, more humiliating to yourselves, bespeaking more of pettiness and of shift, never was witnessed in this world! What! you could cause to be voted a hundred thousand pounds a year, for sixteen years successively, making altogether more than a million and a half of money; you could cause this immense sum to be voted out of the taxes, partly collected from these poor weavers; you could cause this immense sum to be

voted "for the relief of the poor clergy of the Church of England," while there were bishops of that church receiving nearly forty thousand pounds a year each; you could do this, and you could propose grant after grant of the public money to be given for the relief of French, of Dutch, and of German emigrants and sufferers; and, now, when a part of the people, who contributed by taxation towards these grants, when a part of our own fellow subjects are now actually starving in our own country; you call upon people to make a voluntary subscription for them; and say that you are afraid that a Parliamentary grant might be "*drawn into precedent!*" You do not fear the force of precedent in the case of parsons, not a man of whom ever was starving, or even in want of plenty of food and clothing. But now you are afraid of precedent: you are afraid that the poor suffering creatures should imagine that they have a right to receive back, in a time like this, some small portion of those taxes, which they have been paying out of their sweat the whole of their lives.

*Kensington, May 3, 1826.*

The meeting at the Mansion House has now taken place, and

your propositions have now been laid before the House of Commons. These are things to be remembered; to be put upon record. I shall therefore begin by inserting from the Morning Herald of to-day, the account which it publishes of the proceedings at the Mansion House. And, first of all, I shall give the article which that paper inserts, containing its own remarks upon the subject.

#### REMARKS

##### OF THE MORNING HERALD.

Yesterday there was not any ship letter arrived, and public anxiety was in consequence entirely directed to the public meeting for the relief of the distressed manufacturers; but perhaps a more complete failure was never witnessed. It appears that before the *main props* of the Meeting made their public appearance, there was a great deal of private disturbance, and it was demanded by some, and acceded to by others, that *certain topics were not to be agitated*; that is, in reality, that *the resolutions were to be approved of in the room outside*, and were to be brought inside and read, and then as a matter of course, adopted *without any individual being permitted to raise his voice against them*. Adopting this principle, the Right Reverend Prelate, who moved the resolutions himself, put them, without their being even seconded, and declared them to be carried! When the Lord Mayor suggested to him that they must be put from the Chair pro forma, his Lordship then put them *de novo* without their ever having been seconded, and declared them to be carried. However, the *surce* was not yet completed, and after some noise, the Right Hon.



Secretary for the Home Department was compelled to rise, and after talking a vast deal of any other than to the question, the party, with great eagerness, walked out. Every person cried out *that the Meeting was a complete humbug*, and really if the general apparent feeling is at all to be credited, it would have been far wiser for the Home Secretary to have remained at his post, instead of coming into the City to attend such a Meeting as a private individual.

#### REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

Yesterday a numerous and highly respectable Meeting was held in the great room of the City of London Tavern, to take into consideration the distressed state of the manufacturing districts of Lancashire.

The Meeting was held by Requisition, and among those who signed it were Alderman Matthew Wood, Esq. M. P.; Alderman John Smith, Esq. M. P.; Robert Williams, Esq. M. P.; William Williams, Esq. M. P.; Alderman William Thompson, Esq. M. P.; Alderman Garratt; Alderman Brown, in addition to a long list of eminent bankers and merchants.

Among the company present were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Chester, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Clarendon, Lord Darnley, the Hon. Mr. Peel, Sir Robert Peel, Aldermen Sir Charles Flower, Wood, Brown, Waithman, &c. &c.

The Lord Mayor, on taking the Chair, said he had called this Meeting at the request of many most eminent merchants and individuals in the City, who, feeling compassion for the distressed situation of the manufacturers of Lancashire, wished to commence a subscription for their temporary relief, and to make arrangements for the distribution of the funds which should be sub-

scribed. It was useless to go through the circumstances of this case; they were already but too well known. During the short period he had filled the Chair of the Chief Magistrate, it had been his painful duty to attend many meetings of his fellow-citizens on the subject of the commercial distresses of the country; and he was satisfied that now, as on all other occasions, they would maintain their character for benevolence, by lending their assistance to the distressed in the time of difficulty and trouble.

Mr. Marten then read a long list of subscriptions, amounting in the whole to upwards of 7,000*l*.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said he rose to propose a Resolution, for opening the subscription in the City, which had been so handsomely begun elsewhere, and he had no doubt it would be followed up with the same liberality by this Meeting. His Grace then read a Resolution, proposing that a subscription should be immediately opened, and also for the appointment of a Committee of Management. To this Resolution was subjoined these words:—"*That this Meeting cannot separate without expressing the deepest sorrow at the rotous proceedings which have recently taken place; and they deem it to be an act of duty to their misguided fellow subjects to remind them that private property must be protected, and the laws respected; and that the outrages so much to be deplored must necessarily issue in the punishment and ruin of the perpetrators, and in the increased distress of the peaceable and well-disposed.*" The Resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr. Wells then addressed the Meeting on the causes of the distressed state of the country, amid deafening cries of "Order, order," and he at length sat down, on being earnestly requested to do so by the Lord Mayor.

The Bishop of London said the business of the day being happily concluded, it now only remained for them to return their thanks to the

Lord Mayor, for the promptitude with which he had attended to the wishes of his fellow-citizens; and for his able conduct in the Chair this day.

A Gentleman near the table, before the motion was put, expressed an opinion that the Parliament ought not to break up before there had been a revision of the Corn Laws. He was, however, interrupted by tumultuous cries of "Order, order! Hear, hear! Go on, go on!"—and silence having been obtained, he observed that, having had two minutes to consider of the subject of the distresses of the manufacturers, he wished to remark, that on Sunday, he happened accidentally to open his Bible, in some parts which bore immediate reference to them, and he thought these parts should be pointed out to them.—(Here the uproar became so general, that scarcely a word he said could be heard): but in an impassioned tone he exclaimed, "As long as I live I will raise up my voice for Christianity." He was compelled at length to sit down, amidst the greatest noise and confusion.

The Lord Mayor returned thanks

A motion was then made that this Meeting do adjourn.

A general exclamation was made throughout the room for Mr. Peel to come forward and address the company, and during this uproar an individual, who was said to be an iron-monger in Smithfield, with much vociferation, complained of the badness of the times. In 1732, he said, two bushels of wheat could be bought for the same price as one in 1825.

The uproar to hear Mr. Peel having continued, the Hon. Secretary rose, and said he was there merely as a private individual, taking a deep interest in the welfare of those districts which were at present so much disturbed, and coming there to co-operate with the Meeting for their relief. He returned his thanks to those who were desirous of introducing other topics for consideration, for the readiness with which

they had relinquished those discussions, seeing how beneficial it would be that they should all be unanimous on this melancholy occasion. The proofs of the existence of distress were so numerous and obvious, and spoke for themselves in a voice so overwhelming, that the mention of the simple facts were sufficient to excite the attention and compassion of the Meeting. He held in his hand a report from one of the districts where the greatest misery was prevailing, which he would read, not for the purpose of harrowing up feelings of individual sufferings, but to show the necessity of relieving their pressing exigencies. The letter he alluded to was received on Saturday last, from the Vicar of Bolton, a populous town, within nine or ten miles of Manchester, and in the centre of many other places which were enduring equal privations. It was sent with a request to lay it before His Majesty, that he might be made acquainted with their distresses; and the communication being made known to that August Personage, a munificent donation was forwarded to relieve the distresses of that town, independent of the donation His Majesty this day presented to the Committee.

The letter was as follows—

"Bolton, April 29.

"As Vicar of this parish, and Chairman of the Committee for the Relief of the Poor in this district, I am commissioned by the Magistrates and competent authorities here, to request you will represent to His Majesty the deplorable condition of distress, to which the labouring population in this neighbourhood are reduced. Considerable numbers are out of employ, and but very few are able to obtain sufficient to support their families. The sufferings from hunger are extreme. The large subscription of nearly 1200*l.*, which had been raised in the vicinity, is nearly all gone;

and, although the opulent here are well-disposed to alleviate, to the utmost, the distress, in these times, it is next to impossible to obtain another supply. Under these afflicting circumstances, we are emboldened to throw ourselves upon the known compassion of His Most Gracious Majesty, begging of you, Sir, to be the channel of communicating the sufferings of the poor of Bolton to our Sovereign."

What remains, Gentlemen, (said the Right Honourable Gentleman) is most worthy your attention :

"It is my duty and pride to add, that the suffering poor of this place are not unworthy the bounty of their King. They have borne their privations with the most exemplary patience; and no where are the people in this realm more sincerely attached to the sacred person of His Majesty than at Bolton."

As to the above description, given by the Morning Herald, of the character and proceedings of this meeting, I can, myself, know nothing. It is, however, somewhat striking, that a newspaper, so widely circulated, and depending so much on public feeling, should have denominated this meeting a *farce* and a *humbug*! If, however, the report be true, that the resolutions were drawn up in another room, were agreed to there, were put at once, without seconding; and if it be true, that Mr. Wells and another gentleman were compelled to hold their peace, when they rose to speak upon this occasion; if a

sort of injunction was laid upon every body to abstain from all discussion as to causes and remedies; then the meeting was a *farce* and a *humbug*.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is stated, in the above report, to have introduced a resolution, relative to the riotous proceedings of the starving people, and stating in the way of threat, that the *punishment* and *ruin* of the perpetrators must necessarily follow such riotous conduct, and that it must also increase the distress. Now, however true these propositions might have been, I question very much the prudence of introducing them, and particularly by an Archbishop. The poor starving weavers know what the law is as well as the Archbishop does. They have good reason to know it and to remember it; and, if one of them had been present he might have answered the Archbishop by observing, that this subscription never was thought of until after the riots had taken place, though the horrible sufferings of the people were well known in London nearly two months before. This would have been a very good answer to the Archbishop; and if the unfortunate weaver had had a mind to travel back a little, he might

have reminded the Archbishop, that, when, on the 16th of August, 1819, when the suffering people committed, and attempted to commit, no acts of violence at all, there was no subscription for them at the Mansion House, though five hundred men, women and children were either killed or wounded; and he might have gone still farther and observed, that PARSON HAY, who was the chief Manchester magistrate upon that occasion, soon afterwards, was presented to the great living of Rochdale by this very Bishop himself! *Threats*, in such a case, were unbecoming, and particularly as there was a resolution to exclude all discussion of such matters.

I am not a little pleased to perceive, that *Bolton-le-Moor* has been remarkable for the propriety of the conduct of its people. Mr. Peel here tells us, that he has it under the hand of the parson of the parish, that the people have borne their privations with the most exemplary patience; and that, no where are the "people" of the realm more sincerely attached to the sacred person of "His Majesty." I thought as much indeed; for here it was, that John Hays went round the town with a bell to inform his townsmen that

William Cobbett had arrived at Liverpool in good health; and here it was that a **FEAST OF THE GRIDIRON** was held on the 6th of April last. Ah! Mr. Peel, ah! successor of CRANMER! Ah! Mr. Vicar of Bolton! The people of Bolton understand all about the cause of their sufferings: they know all about Peel's Bill and Small-note Bill and Corn Bill, and all the rest of it. No human being can deceive them. They want no palaver: they want victuals to eat; they know that their forefathers had plenty of it; they are industrious, ingenious, frugal, and virtuous; and they never will be able to discover a reason for their lying down and expiring with hunger in silence.

It is stated that seven thousand pounds and upwards were subscribed yesterday at the Mansion House, that His Majesty gave two thousand; and other persons the rest of this sum. Seventy thousand pounds is much nearer the sum that I should have expected. However, little is better than nothing; especially if it come, as it ought to come, from those who have been so long living on the taxes. This is the source to which people reasonably look. The main body of merchants and tradesmen in this metropolis are

nearly totally ruined. They have been slaughtered by the paper-money system, against which no human prudence could guard them. They have not the means to assist the poor sufferers: almost every man amongst them is looking forward to the ultimate ruin of himself and family. Besides, upon what ground is it that you, the Ministers, call upon the public for voluntary donations upon this occasion. Take the tradesmen, for instance, along Fleet-street and the Strand: have they had any hand in producing this distress? Have they been the promoters of Corn Bills? Have they been living on the taxes taken from these people? Have they had any salaries to be *doubled*, at this season of most pinching distress? No. Have we, who have loudly disapproved of your system, who have warned you of the consequences of it, who have endeavoured to check its fatal progress, and who have been calumniated, persecuted, punished, almost hunted from the face of the earth, for those endeavours; have we any part of this horrible calamity to answer for; and are we now to be called upon by you to come and give you our money, by voluntary subscription, in order that you may employ it to prevent

the dreadful effects of those sufferings which have arisen up in the country, while you have had the absolute control over all its affairs?

When there was a Bill before Parliament for *transporting* men guilty of seditious libel, and when Lord Holland cried out against the horrible severity of such law, the Lord Chancellor answered him in the Latin words of my motto: *salus populi suprema lex: the safety of the people is the highest law*. So the safety of the people required that we should be transported for seditious libel: that safety was sufficient to authorize the sweeping away of all the laws of England, as far as related to the liberty of the press. But, now, the *safety* of the people, when that people is actually starving, appears not to be sufficient to call forth a Parliamentary grant of money, lest such grant should be drawn into *precedent*! No fear, I warrant you, of the precedent of 1819; no fear of that; but now, when starvation is actually prowling over the land, to grant money to put a stop to the starvation would be a dangerous precedent!

I now come to your project of relief by relaxing the Corn Laws. The project is, first, to let out the

bonded corn; and, next, to enable you to let in other foreign corn, during the recess. This Corn Law, this exclusion of foreign corn; this cutting off of foreign trade, while you are boasting of free trade, is at once so foolish and so detestable a thing, that I am glad to see it destroyed, either in part or in whole, and by any means, be those means what they may. But, alas, for your consistency; alas, for your characters as statesmen, after the adopting of this measure, for your present reasons and under the present circumstances. Your great characteristic is, profound ignorance of your business. Most profound, most perfect ignorance, of those affairs which it is your duty to understand. Upon no one occasion have you ever appeared to see any thing at all of the *cause* of any of those evils which you have to deal with. Never have you discovered the smallest particle of *foresight*. Every evil takes you by surprise; and you are like farmers' people who run out with sticks after the cattle have broken into the field. Mr. Canning now tells the Parliament, that, "an *immediate and effectual remedy*, for the present famine, will be found, in letting loose the bonded corn." Now, if this be true,

what a monstrous piece of misconduct here has been. You knew of the existence of the starvation more than a month ago, at least: you had this "*effectual remedy*" in your hands; and yet, you never attempted to employ it until now! You saw the people starving; you were told of their eating horse-flesh and draff; you had in your hands an "*immediate and effectual remedy*"; and yet, you never attempted to apply that remedy, until many lives had been lost in fight, and until it had been stated in the newspapers that the weavers had overcome the military. Talk of *responsibility*, indeed! Where is there responsibility, if there is to be none in a case like this?

However, far is this from being the view of the matter which is most disadvantageous to you; for, no longer ago than the 19th of April, when Mr. Whitmore moved for an inquiry respecting the state of the Corn Laws, you most vehemently deprecated all discussion upon the subject; all agitation of the question. Not only did you deprecate such agitation and such discussion; but you gave as a reason, that it was improper to discuss and agitate, *because part of the people were plunged into deep distress*; so that

the very reason upon which you now found the present measures, you urged as conclusive against meddling with the subject at all. Before I proceed further, I must make an extract from the speech of Mr. Huskisson, made during that debate; and, were I speaking to anybody but yourselves, I should say, prepare wet cloths, for I am about to make your blushes burn your cheeks to cinder.

For his part, he must say, that if *any question was more unfit than another to be set afloat in the country at this moment, it was the difficult and momentous question of the Corn Laws.* He said, momentous, because it had reference to the well-being and security of a numerous population, who depended on the soil for their subsistence, and whose interest it was the duty of the House to take into consideration before they came to any decision on the subject. When he said momentous, he would ask, *if no circumstances had arisen since the law passed for sanctioning a free-trade which required to be taken into consideration.* He would say, that most important changes had taken place, and that these materially affected the landed interest. It was no easy matter to ascertain what changes had taken place, but he was well aware that *these ought to be known before they should pass any laws for altering the present system, and for granting that compensation and protection to the owners of land to which they were entitled.* The present system he considered most defective. (Hear, hear.) Absolute prohibition on this, or on any other articles of commerce, was in the highest degree objectionable, but the least they could

do, was to tread cautiously, and adopt changes on sound principles. *A sudden change would have the most injurious effects.* Nothing, indeed, he conceived, could tend so much to *aggravate the difficulties with which they were surrounded.*—(Hear, hear.) Some time, therefore, ought to be allowed for information. These difficulties which he had mentioned were only of a general nature, but there were others of a different description, which rendered it quite inexpedient to pass any law on the subject at this moment. The necessary documents were not before the House. It was absolutely necessary to know the changes which had been introduced in the corn-growing countries in the north of Europe, on account of the prohibitory system which had been adopted in this country, before they proceeded to pass laws for allowing a protecting duty to the landowners. Last Session, a person, whose abilities he could not rate too highly, was sent out to the different ports in the north of Europe for the purpose of ascertaining the average price of grain. He had sent home documents which were of great importance as far as they went, but they were not complete. An appendix to these documents had been made out, which the House had not yet seen, and which he considered ought to be fully known before the House came to a decision. For this reason alone, he thought that the question ought to be postponed till the country and the House had an opportunity of reading them, and he knew that if they were read and studied correctly, they would be the most effectual means of enabling the House to come to a proper decision. The great alterations too which had taken place lately in the money system was another consideration which they had to take into account. With all these obstacles in their way, could any man say that this was a proper time to enter upon a subject of such interest and importance?—(Hear, hear, hear.) The currency was the very

soul and element of price, and till some proper arrangement should be made on that point, and till the country was in a more settled state, it would be most inexpedient to come to any decision. Besides these objections, he thought that there was another very powerful one. Every Member was looking forward to the general election.—(Hear, hear, and a laugh.) He would repeat it, they were all looking forward to the election—it was stated in all the newspapers that it would soon take place, and as they had so soon to meet their constituents, he thought that it would be extremely improper to raise any question which would excite angry feelings, or raise commotion throughout the country. Such a subject as this ought to meet the most calm and deliberate discussion. He gave a pledge last year that he would bring the subject before the House, but he must say, as a Minister of the Crown, that that pledge was not so peremptory as not to allow them to take into consideration circumstances which could not have been foreseen.—(Hear, hear.) But he would just ask what was the nature of the pledge. He said if the necessary information could be procured, and if the question could be taken up at the beginning of the Session, he would second the measure. Neither of these conditions had been fulfilled, and consequently he thought it unfair to call upon him to redeem a pledge without considering the terms in which it had been made. These arguments, however, could not be conclusive, if there was any possibility of contriving means to remedy the present distress, and he must say that, in the manufacturing districts that distress was most severe—(hear, hear); but he denied that any immediate relief could be granted by a change in the Corn Laws. If it were in the power of man by any legislative Act to reduce the price of wheat, so far from relieving distress, it would only aggravate the evil, and destroy the best hopes of all those who

took a calm and deliberate view of the question.—(Hear, hear.) It had been stated that if the Corn Laws were altered our foreign commerce would be increased; but the best hope of relief was from internal consumption.

If ever there were shameful inconsistency, scandalous self-contradiction; if ever there were that for which men ought to be ashamed, here it is in this speech, compared with your present proceedings. Here is Mr. Huskisson saying, that “the distress in the manufacturing districts was most severe; but HE DENIED, that any immediate relief would be granted by any change in the corn laws.” Nay, he does not stop here; but goes on to say, that, “if it were in the power of man, by any legislative act, to reduce the price of wheat, so far from relieving the distress, IT WOULD ONLY AGGRAVATE THAT EVIL.” So that here is he, saying this, on the 19th of April; and here are you, on the 2d of May, saying that letting out the bonded corn, and thereby inevitably reducing the price of wheat, will be an “immediate and effectual remedy for the distress.” Did the whole world ever before witness proof of ignorance so profound, or of insincerity so truly despicable!



To say more upon such a subject would be useless. Those who can confide in you after this, ought to confide in you. They ought never to know what it is to be under the influence of wisdom and fair dealing.

I now come to the debate of Tuesday night, on this suddenly conceived project. Sir Thomas Lethbridge, and Mr. Bennett of Wiltshire, together with some others, opposed the project, which, however, they did in vain, and which they ought to do in vain; for, as I said before, the corn laws are so absurd, as well as so unjust, that to get rid of them, in whole or in part, is a good thing, let the intention or the means be what they may. The corn laws, called for by the landlords, for what they deemed their own advantage, have been, and will be, a scourge for their own backs. At the peace, when they found that they had still heavy taxes to pay, their great object was to keep up the price of corn, in order that they might keep up their rents. They had one of two courses to pursue: to cause taxes to be reduced one half in nominal amount, or to keep up the price of corn. The former would not have suited them: some of themselves, a great part of their rela-

tions and dependants, were sharing largely in the taxes. If they took off the taxes, they relieved their estates; but they also relieved, in the same proportion, *all the rest of the community*, to whom a great reduction of taxes would have been a clear gain, seeing that *they* enjoyed no part of those taxes. This the landlords said; and, therefore, they did not wish to take off taxes, in which they largely shared; but to keep their share of the taxes, and at the same time, get high rents from their estates, by keeping up the price of corn. This is the true history of the corn laws of 1815; laws brought in by Mr. Robinson, and vehemently supported by Mr. Huskisson. The main body of the *people* could not conceive how they were to be benefited by the high price of corn. They, therefore, petitioned, from one end of the country to the other, against these odious laws, which were, at last passed, with troops drawn up round the House to keep off the people.

We have not forgotten this history of these laws; and Sir Thomas Lethbridge will talk a very long while, before he persuade the people that these laws are for their good. The Land-owners have the remedy in their own hands.

No matter to them how cheap corn may be, *if taxes be in proportion to the price of corn.* But, here they boggle, dear creatures! they want to suffer the taxes to remain, because they and their relations share in them; they want high-priced corn, to enable them to pay the taxes and make others pay the taxes too; but a state of things is now come, when there must be a free trade in corn; and their difficulty now is, how to go to work, except by Norfolk Petition, to be able to pay the taxes with low-priced corn. You have determined to return to a gold and silver currency: with that currency there cannot be corn at a high price; and corn at a low price strips them of their rents.

Mr. Bennett, of Wiltshire, appears to me to be amongst the last of landlords who has a right to complain in this case. In 1814, he, as a leading member of the Wiltshire Agricultural Association, agreed to and published resolutions, stating that the parties were *quite willing to continue to pay all the high taxes*, provided there were a law which would ensure them *high price for their produce!* The rest of the community were left out of the question. No matter apparently what

became of them. They and their relations had no share in the taxes; and they were to continue to pay high taxes, and high price for corn into the bargain. This amiable project was adopted in the Corn Bill of 1815. The wise men of Wiltshire did not perceive how the currency would work against them; and they saw themselves brought to the door of the workhouse, while their guardian angel the corn law was still existing in full force.

Sir Thomas Lethbridge says that we must, at all events, continue to pay in full the interest of the debt; and he also says that our establishments are not larger than they must be. He says not a word about the taking off of taxes; he says nothing about an equitable adjustment. He says he will have *his coat taken from his back*, rather than take a penny from the public creditor. It is pleasant to see people prepare for inevitable calamities. An evil loses half its force when the sufferer has laid in a stock of fortitude beforehand. If Sir Thomas adhere to his doctrine, and if that doctrine be acted upon, he *will* have the coat taken off his back, and will be left as naked as a robin two hours old; and I shall see him in a plight more wretched

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even than that of any of those, who are now, as he, I dare say, sincerely professes, objects of his commiseration.

There is another person, however, who seems to be of a somewhat different opinion; namely, Lord Grey, whose speech in the House of Lords on Monday night has in it something very well worthy of Sir Thomas's attention. That noble Lord, who has never been wrong with regard to this matter, except, perhaps, that he did, at the time of Peel's Bill, seem to concur in the possibility of carrying it into effect; from the very first stoppage of the Bank of England, Lord Grey has always been right upon this great subject, as far, at any rate, as he has meddled with it. Some persons may be inclined to blame him for not having, from time to time, fully expressed his opinions; but, when one considers the load of odium that every one has had to sustain, who has endeavoured to enlighten the public relative to this matter; when one considers the weight of the torrent of error; and when one considers, also, that his Lordship might, possibly, have effected no good in endeavouring to stop this torrent; we can, when we so well know how perfect are his honour and in-

tegrity, easily suppose, that when he has abstained from uttering his sentiments, he has thought it for the best. He has now, however, spoken out more plainly than I recollect him to have done upon any former occasion. I quote the passage from his speech as reported in the morning of Tuesday; and I beg the attention of all my readers to every word that it contains.

*Something has been said regarding the state of the currency, and upon this point I may add, that I, too, am anxious to witness the restoration of a metallic circulation; but seeing what I see, when we make an approach to this desirable object, and remembering what has already occurred, I must repeat, what I expressed some years ago, my doubts as to the possibility of accomplishing it. I doubt whether the country be capable of passing through and recovering from the distress by which it must be inevitably preceded. I admit that faith with the public creditor ought to be kept by great sacrifices, if sacrifices are of avail for that purpose. It is a sound maxim of law, nemo tenetur ad impossibilia, and if the Government be placed in a situation in which it is impossible to keep the country in a state of decent prosperity, it is not required to do impossibilities, and to throw the whole state of society into confusion by attempting them. The more I see of the situation of the country; after more than ten years of peace, suffering as it does at this moment so severely from the effects of an extravagant, and as I always contended, an ill-advised war, the more I am persuaded that no half measures will be of the slightest benefit. Government must take up the whole subject with a sincere desire to probe to the bottom all the evils that afflict*

us, and to propose those salutary reforms, which alone can restore us to health and prosperity. If only temporary palliatives are resorted to, distress will follow distress in succession, *assuming a more aggravated form*, until it at last hurries on a  *fearful convulsion*, from which I hope the country will have strength to recover, but through which the present generation cannot pass without a degree of suffering too painful for detail.

There, pretty Gentlemen of Whitehall. There spoke a *statesman*; and all that is deficient in him is, that he does not at once bring the question to the test. The country is quite ripe for it; and you will only go on from mischief to mischief, each rising above the preceding, both in magnitude and malignity; unless you at once resolve this salutary advice. How are you to put a stop to the distress of the manufacturers? You have no means of putting such stop. You have decreed that such means shall not exist. You cannot cause an addition to be made to the wages of the manufacturer; and, without a monstrous reduction of taxation, you have no means of diminishing his misery. In whatever degree you lower the price of corn (unless you diminish taxes in the same proportion), you take away the means of purchasing the manufacturers' goods. If wheat were at two shillings a bushel to-

orrow, the wages of the manufacturer (all the taxes remaining) would fall in the same degree. You can collect the revenue; and, in my opinion, to nearly its present amount; and the lower you can make prices at the same time, the more you will oppress all the industrious classes. You have no means of relief, of effectual and permanent relief, except in the reduction of taxes; and this reduction ought to be accomplished to the necessary extent, without a great diminution in your monstrous establishments, and a great diminution also in the interest of the debt. Whether these reductions will be made in time, I know not; but this I know, that, unless they be made in time by the Government, they will, when it is too late, be made by *tremendous events!*

WM. COBBETT.

TO  
THE ELECTORS OF THE  
CITY OF NORWICH.

GENTLEMEN,

MR. RD. H. GURNEY (brother of Obediah), and one of the members for the city of Norwich, has, in the following words, published his intention not to offer himself

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again as a person to fill that post. I will first insert the notification; and then make a remark or two upon it.

" To the Gentlemen, Clergy,  
 " Freemen, and Freeholders  
 " of the City and County of  
 " Norwich.

" GENTLEMEN,— Finding that  
 " *the state of my health* prevents  
 " my being able to give that de-  
 " gree of attendance on those  
 " Parliamentary duties which you  
 " have a right to expect of me,  
 " without great personal incon-  
 " venience, and *my opinions dif-*  
 " *fering from those of many with*  
 " *whom I have generally acted, as*  
 " *to the possibility of this country*  
 " *sustaining a return to specie*  
 " *payments, as previously to 1797,*  
 " *and having, at the same time, a*  
 " *free trade, without a reduction*  
 " *of at least one-half of the pre-*  
 " *sent taxation,* I am induced to  
 " decline again offering myself as  
 " a candidate for your suffrages.  
 " Assuring you I feel every due  
 " sense of gratitude for the con-  
 " fidence you have hitherto placed  
 " in me, and with the best wishes  
 " for your prosperity,

" I have the honour to be,

" Gentlemen,

" Your most faithful and

" devoted Servant,

" R. H. GURNEY."

" London, 27th April, 1826."

Mr. Gurney has an undoubted right to decline to offer himself again as a candidate for a seat in Parliament; and he has a right to do this without publicly stating any reason at all for it: but, if the notification be made public by himself, and if he publicly state *reasons* for his declining to serve again; then he gives every man a right to examine into those reasons, and to try the solidity of them by the standard of Mr. Gurney's own acts.

The first reason here assigned is that his *health* is such as to prevent him from attending properly (without great personal inconvenience) to those duties which his constituents have a right to expect from him. This is a very good reason; quite sufficient of itself; so perfectly satisfactory that it is a great pity that the sincerity of it should have been, if not positively made doubtful, called in question, at least by the other reason which Mr. Gurney has thought proper to put forward.

And, what is this other reason? It is that Mr. Gurney differs in opinion, upon one particular subject of legislation, with many of those with whom he has generally acted in Parliament; that is to say, with whom he has generally voted in Parliament. Now, this

is, in my opinion, a very bad reason; for if members were generally to resign upon grounds like this, what a pretty sort of representation the people must have! The member holds his seat, or ought to hold his seat, in order to produce measures corresponding with his own conscientious opinions; and not in order to form one of a phalanx who are to hang together through thick and through thin. The more deeply Mr. Gurney thought his co-operators to be plunged in error, the more necessity was there for his remaining, in order to use his endeavours to put them in the right way. It became not a man, chosen by a city like Norwich, to abandon a post which he had sought, the moment he found that post to be a post of difficulty.

But, is this all, Gentlemen? Is this all that presents itself to you, when you contemplate this address of Mr. Gurney? What is this particular subject of legislation, with regard to which Mr. Gurney differs in opinion from his former co-operators? It is this, that they think that there can be a return to specie payments, and that there can be free trade, and that he thinks it to be impossible for these to take place without a reduction of, at least, one half of

that taxation. This is the point upon which Mr. Gurney differs in opinion with his former co-operators. I agree with Mr. Gurney as to this point; but, when was it that Mr. Gurney last solicited your suffrages? It was in the early part of the year 1820. I pray you to bear that time in mind, Gentlemen. At that time a law had just been passed, which positively provided for a complete return to specie payments, and, also, for a complete extinction of all notes under five pounds, of every description, on the first of May, 1823. Here would have been a real return to specie payments. This Act had been passed without a dissenting voice. It was the law, Mr. Gurney knew it. He saw the specie payments coming by positive law. There was not a single man in Parliament that even thought of changing that law; and yet, with all this so well known to him, he solicited from you those suffrages which put him in Parliament that time; which put him into that very seat which he now abandons, because he finds so few to think with him that it is impossible to return to specie payments!

Well, but Mr. Gurney has had experience since that time, and has changed his opinions. If this

be the case, have not you and I, Gentlemen, great reason to complain of Mr. Gurney? Mr. Gurney now quits his seat because he cannot bring his friends to think with him *that my principles are just*. This is the real fact. I have always contended, that it is impossible to return to a gold and silver currency, without taking off one-half of the present taxes; or, at any rate, without producing indescribable misery and some convulsion. This is what I have always contended. The Norfolk petition is founded upon this principle. Why, then, did Mr. Gurney keep so quiet; why did he not show himself when DADDY COKE and BETTY HUBBARD were so busy with their abuse and calumny in the holes and corners? Why did he keep silent and hear that petition abused even by Obadiah in the honourable House itself?

The truth is, that the Small-note Bill had then passed, that the small paper-money was tumbling out again, that the gamblers and monopolizers were beginning to gain most enormously; that all those bubbles were beginning to swell, by which the rag-rooks were gaining at so enormous a rate: but NOW, when these bubbles have burst; when a law

has been passed to put an end to the villanous small paper-money; now Mr. Gurney discovers that the thing cannot get along, and he quits his seat because so many of his old friends think that it can. This is the true history of Mr. Gurney's conduct. Whether this conduct can be called fair and consistent, I will leave you to judge, having no desire to say myself any thing very harsh with regard to Mr. Gurney. But, I must say, that as he is one of the representatives of the whole nation, I, as well as you and every body else, have a right to complain that he never stated these principles in Parliament, where he could have given useful countenance to the doctrines held by me, and for the putting forth of which he heard me so atrociously calumniated.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient, and  
Most humble Servant,  
WM. COBBETT.

### NORWICH BANKS.

On Tuesday night, Lord Viscount Folkestone presented to the House of Commons the following Petition, on the subject of refusal of payment, at some of these Banks.

The Petition will speak pretty plainly for itself. When the reader has gone through it, I have a remark or two to add, on what took place at the presenting of it.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of JAMES CANNELL, of Teasburgh, near Long-Stratton, in the County of Norfolk, dated this 5th day of April, 1826,

Most humbly Sheweth,

That your petitioner having, in the month of February last, seen several of his poor neighbours suffer greatly from the breaking of banks, strongly advised others, who held notes of banks not yet broken, to go to those banks and demand gold; that he found people afraid to do this; but that, he having offered to do it for them, there were brought to him, by several persons, notes of three Norwich banks, in order that he might get the gold in exchange for the said notes.

That, on the 11th of February, he went to the bank of Joseph Gurney, Hudson Gurney, Richard H. Gurney and Joseph John Gurney, the second two of whom are members of your Honourable House; that he then and there demanded payment of notes of the said bank, to the amount of one hundred and thirty pounds; that the said bankers, or their clerks,

refused to pay him in gold; that they tendered him Bank of England notes; that they told him he should take those notes or have nothing; and that, therefore, he returned the notes to the owners of them, to the great disappointment and grief of the said owners.

That, on the same 11th of February, he went, for a similar purpose, to the bank of Thompson, Barclay, and Ives, where he demanded payment of their notes to the amount of eight pounds; that the said bankers, or clerks, tendered him payment in Bank of England notes, and insisted, that these were a legal tender; that, they did, however, after much dispute, pay him in gold; that, on the 18th of February, having, at the same bank, demanded payment of twenty-seven pounds, the bankers, or their clerks, abused him very grossly, and told him, that, if he persisted in the practice of demanding gold, they would set a mark upon him as a bad fellow; that, at last, they paid him in gold, but warned him not to do the like again.

That, on the 11th of February aforesaid, he went to the bank of Harvey and Hudson; that he there demanded payment of their notes to the amount of *three pounds*; that the cashier, or clerk, tendered him Bank of England notes, telling him that they were a legal tender; that your petitioner demanded gold, which he finally got; that the clerk demanded his name, which he wrote down, and told your petitioner not to come



again on a like errand, or he should be marked; that, however, your petitioner went again to the same bank on the 18th of February, and demanded payment of its notes to the amount of twenty pounds; that the clerk told him, he should not have gold; that he threatened your numble petitioner, and told him that, if he did not go quietly away, he would take him before Sir Robert Harvey, as a Justice of the Peace; that your petitioner refused to go away without the gold; that the clerk took him before the said Justice of the Peace, who is also a partner in the bank, and that Sir Robert finally ordered the said clerk to pay your petitioner in gold.

Now, seeing that there is ample proof before the public, that, in numerous instances, bank notes have been issued, to an immense amount, by bankers who knew themselves to be insolvent at the time of the issue; seeing how many thousands of poor and frugal men have had their little all snatched from them and their families by such means; seeing the audacious manner in which the law has been, and daily is, set at defiance, as above stated, by bankers and their clerks; seeing the numerous instances in which the bankers are justices of the peace, or fill other posts of authority and power; seeing that the labourers and small farmers and tradesmen are overawed by the fear of the power and vengeance of such persons, and, from that fear, refrain from demanding gold, agreeably to

the law, and are thus reduced to beggary: seeing these things, your petitioner, who has himself endured persecution and injury to a great extent, most humbly prays your Honourable House to pass a law, to compel, by summary process, all bankers to pay in gold on demand: and he further prays, that you will pass a law to exclude all bankers, while they are such, from all posts of public trust and power, and especially from the office of justice of the peace and from seats in your Honourable House; or that your Honourable House will be pleased to adopt, for the protection of the poorer part of His Majesty's subjects, such other measures as your Honourable House shall, in its wisdom and justice and mercy, deem to be most meet.

And your humble petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JAMES CANNELL.

When Lord FOLKESTONE presented this Petition, he observed, that he agreed with the first prayer of it, but that he did not agree with the second prayer of it. This was frank and honourable. He was not found to agree in any part of the prayer: that was a matter for the consideration of the Petitioner alone. It is right, however, for me to say, that I most heartily join in the whole of the prayer. I would, if I could have my will,

shut out Brewers, as well as Bankers, from being Justices of the Peace. Their filling those posts has, in my opinion, greatly tended to produce, the present horrible state of things.

When the petition was presented, Mr. HUDSON GURNEY (The Morning Herald says), said a few words, in an indistinct manner. Now, a gentleman who was present in the gallery, at the time, heard some Member speak upon the subject, but did not know who the member was. He spoke so indistinctly, that the Gentleman could not gather the drift of his remarks; but he heard him three or four times pronounce the words, "Mr. COBBETT." I regret exceedingly that Mr. GURNEY did not speak plainer; for I am anxious to know what *my name* could possibly have to do with this petition; unless, indeed, Mr. GURNEY suspected me to have drawn it up; and even then I cannot see any ground for the mention of my name, unless it is, at last, become improper for us to assist one another, in an endeavour to obtain our rights. Mr. CANNELL is a very worthy and public-spirited man. He is entitled to the thanks of the country, for what he has done. He will be remembered as one of those who have laboured

in the cause of the country, upon this occasion. To be sure Mr. GURNEY might, in such a case, very reasonably talk of "Mr. COBBETT;" for who has done so much, in bringing this thing to a crisis? So far am I from wishing to be thought as not having anything to do, in cases of this sort, I should take blame to myself if I had neglected, in any such case, to do every thing, lying in my power. I wish the paper system to be destroyed; I thank the Ministers for having done, so much as they have done, towards it. I agree, with Lord Grey, that they ought to do a great deal more; I agree that calamities insupportable will come from an attempt to restore gold and silver into circulation, unless other, and those very great, measures, be adopted; but still I thank the Ministers for what they have done.

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### DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

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THE delectable *uncertainty* continues, and is, if possible, increased by the battles in the North. Talk of the *winds*, indeed! Talk of *April-weather*! What, in all nature, can be compared with the chopping and changing about of

our **THING**, which, on the 19th of April resolved; that, to meddle with the Corn-Laws *would add to the distress of the weavers*; and which, on the 2nd of May, resolved, that to alter the Corn-Laws *would afford those weavers "immediate and effectual relief!"* Aye; but, in the meanwhile, news had arrived, that the weavers had collected in *large bodies*, had dug up their old *pikes*, had armed themselves in various ways, had *exchanged shots*, had in one instance, at least, "*overpowered the military*," and, it was notorious, that they had destroyed *troops* in despite of a *force*. Who, under such a **THING**, can guess at what is to happen; who can guess when *any-thing* will take place, much less a *dissolution of Parliament*? For my part, I do not expect this to take place till the fall of the year; and I should not be surprised if it did not take place *even then*! Therefore, I do not think it necessary, *this week*, at least, to *begin making any particular stir as to a seat for myself*. In the meanwhile I have had pointed out to me a paragraph in a little weekly-newspaper; called the *EXAMINER*, which, after having long lived as toad-eater to *Atkinson*, has now become the toad-eater of "*rational* *Christia-*

*nity*," and which has always been toad-eater to the man of many acres and his 'Squire. The paragraph is as follows:

We regret that the great variety of interesting matter this week prevents our giving more than a sketch of the excellent speech of Mr. HOBHOUSE, on Thursday night, upon Reform. It was one of the *happiest products* of the present session—full of *acute remark* and *lively illustration*. BY THE WAY, it is rumoured, that COBBETT means to start for Westminster at the general election; and his ambitious language in yesterday's *Register* makes us suspect that he really entertains that *wild scheme*. Such is the fruit of *vanity*; there are plenty of places where, with some money, he would stand a good chance of being returned in place of some worthless ninny; but it seems he must put himself against *two popular Representatives*, to whom their Constituents are too much attached to allow them to be ousted by a *weather-cock-politician*, however smart. If MR. COBBETT be so ill-advised as to make this experiment, he will be rewarded—he will lose his money, and—his election.

Now, mind, this very toad-eater announced, only about three weeks ago, that Sir FRANCIS BURDETT was about to *subscribe towards my election fund*; and the toad-eater said, that it did "*great honour* to the heart of the worthy *Baronet*! What! toad-eater, did it do great honour to him, to assist in putting a "*weather-cock politician*" into Parliament? This poor, little miserable dealer in table-talk, whose mind seems to have

been formed in a lobby of the play-house; this man, who praises a speech of Hobhouse, *all the good part of which was direct purloining from the Register*, without scarcely a change in the words themselves; this is a fellow, this is a pander at the heels of Atheism, this is a man to know any thing about the feelings of the people of Westminster! This is a man to discover, that the electors of that city must inevitably be attached to those who have never done any thing for the people, as the people well know! At present, it is unnecessary for me to say any thing more particular about Westminster, and that which is unnecessary may be omitted; but, one thing I will pledge myself for, and that is, that "attached" as the people are to these heroes of the EXAMINER, the heroes themselves do not feel so very confident as to that attachment; and that they have now attended to election scores, which, for six years, they turned a deaf ear to!

I have often heard people express their wonder at the adherence of such men as this HUNT to SIR FRANCIS BURDETT. It is, after all that has been exposed, and all that this man must know besides, sheer baseness. There is,

to be sure, envy of me; but it is base, innate base adoration of twenty thousand acres of land, together with the despicable vanity of wishing to be thought a friend and intimate acquaintance of the owner! Yes, it is this: this poor, base, vain thing, thinks he shall make his readers believe that he knows, that he is particularly acquainted with the owner of the twenty thousand acres. Now, of those twenty thousand acres, there are, probably, a thousand of woods and coppices; and in these there are, probably, all the year round, not less than a million of Tom-tits. The Tom-tit is a very little bird, with a blue back, black head and tail, and a white belly. It is seen constantly (when the leaf is out) running along the branches, with its back downward, looking upwards for the nests and eggs of insects, which canker and destroy the trees. Now, I would pledge my existence, that, of the probable million of these little creatures, who are constantly working for BURDETT, there is not one for which he has not as much consideration and respect as he has for this poor little devil, HUNT, and which he does not look upon as being much upon an equality with him! As far, indeed, as this Tom-tit of the Press can serve him, he

looks on it, as he does on the labours of its silvan name-sake; but, as to any thing further, the paragraphs of the former are to him no more than the *chee-wee-chee* of the latter.

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TO  
CORRESPONDENTS.

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In answer to those friends in the country who have been so kind as to invite me to their houses, I have to observe, that, if I find that the Dissolution is not to take place till the autumn, I shall set off from home in about a fortnight. But, as we can know nothing of what the THING will do; as its movements are much more uncertain than those of the wind, and as I have placed myself within the vortex of its influence; as I have become, for once in my life, dependent upon its vagaries, I must, for some time, at any rate, await its pleasure, or await rather, the effects of those events which are now pushing it about backward and forward, up and down, and from one side to the other.

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*Thursday Morning.*

The subscription at the Mansion House, as published this morning, amounts to about twelve thousand pounds! This may be about six-

pence a-head, for the people who are in a state of starvation. Suppose forty times this sum to be collected; that is to say, *four hundred and eighty thousand pounds*. Then there will be about twenty shillings a-head, for the starving people. This twenty shillings a-head would hardly last for more than forty days; and there are only so many sixpences instead of so many pounds, already collected. I agree with those, who are for a large Parliamentary grant of money. If there be not taxes enough, stop the salaries; and, above all things, call upon the rich Church of England, to begin to pay back the sixteen hundred thousand pounds, voted away to the Clergy out of the taxes. This thumping sum would be something, indeed. This would stay the famine for a while, at any rate. If the Clergy plead, that the tithes are founded in the law of God, let them look to the Book of Exodus, and they will there find, what share the poor, the stranger, the widow and the orphan were to have in those tithes: but, this law of God out of the question, there are the sixteen hundred thousand pounds which the Clergy received out of the taxes; and this sum will now, I trust, be restored.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending April 22.

Per Quarter.			
s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat ..	60 1	Rye ....	38 7
Barley ..	51 11	Beans ...	37 3
Oats ....	23 10	Pease ...	38 9

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended April 22.

Qrs.		Qrs.	
Wheat ..	39,838	Rye ....	287
Barley ..	51,751	Beans ...	3,085
Oats ...	54,035	Pease ...	489

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, April 22.

Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat..	6,312	for 20,129	1 10	Average,	63 9
Barley..	4,386	.. 7,127	0 11	.....	32 5
Oats..	11,791	.. 16,052	19 3	.....	27 2
Rye....	64	.. 102	3 9	.....	31 11
Beans..	929	.....1,774	16 3	.....	38 2
Pease ..	413	..... 822	12 8	.....	39 10

Friday, April 28.—The supply of all sorts of Grain and of Flour is good. The quantity of Oats is considerable. Wheat has met a very dull sale to-day, and even the best samples must be quoted rather lower than on Monday. Barley for malting has no demand, and other kinds are very heavy. Beans and Pease are unaltered. Oats have experienced so slack a trade that they may be quoted rather lower.

Monday, May 1.—The arrivals of all descriptions of Grain last week were good, and there was again a considerable quantity of Flour. This morning the supply of Wheat from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, is more than adequate to the present demand, and the trade for this article has been very dull throughout the day, at a decline of 1s. to 2s. per qr. from the terms of this day se'nnight.

Though Barley comes to hand sparingly, yet the prices continue to give way, the trade in this article being extremely dull. Beans support the rates last quoted. For Boiling Pease there is no demand. Grey Pease are scarce, and 1s. per quarter dearer. The quantity of Oats for sale is more abundant than for some time past, and the prices are declined since this day se'nnight, full 1s. per quarter, with many parcels left on hand unsold. The top price of Flour may now be considered as settled to 55s. per sack.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack ..... 52s. — 55s.  
 — Seconds ..... 48s. — 50s.  
 — North Country .. 42s. — 45s.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

COAL MARKET, April 28.

Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.  
 79½ Newcastle.. 52 27s. 0d. to 35s. 9d.  
 30½ Sunderland.. 16½ 32s. 6d. — 37s. 0d.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 10 to 5 10
Middlings.....	2 10 — 2 15
Chats .....	2 10 — 0 0
Common Red..	0 0 — 0 0
Onions, Os. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 0 to 5 10
Middlings.....	2 10 — 3 0
Chats.....	2 0 — 0 0
Common Red..	0 0 — 0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....	65s. to 90s.
Straw...	34s. to 36s.
Clover..	85s. to 130s.
St. James's.—Hay....	60s. to 100s.
Straw ..	36s. to 44s.
Clover ..	76s. to 100s.
Whitechapel.—Hay,...	65s. to 88s.
Straw...	36s. to 42s.
Clover..	84s. to 105s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

*The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.*

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.
	s. to s.	d.	s. to s.	d.	s. to s.	d.	s. to s.	d.	s. to s.
Aylesbury .....	60	68 0	36	40 0	28	32 0	42	45 0	0 0 0
Banbury .....	64	69 4	31	33 6	24	30 0	44	50 0	0 0 0
Basingstoke .....	56	70 0	28	34 0	24	20 0	48	54 0	0 0 0
Bridport.....	56	60 0	28	30 0	22	28 0	46	48 0	0 0 0
Chelmsford.....	60	72 0	30	34 0	26	32 0	32	34 0	38 45 0
Derby.....	64	68 0	30	32 0	24	28 0	38	45 0	0 0 0
Devizes.....	50	68 0	30	38 0	26	32 0	44	54 0	0 0 0
Dorchester.....	50	64 0	26	30 0	23	27 0	46	52 0	0 0 0
Exeter.....	70	76 0	36	40 0	24	27 0	28	32 0	0 0 0
Eye .....	56	64 0	32	36 0	24	30 0	36	40 0	34 38 0
Guildford.....	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0
Henley.....	66	75 0	28	35 0	24	30 0	46	52 0	45 49 0
Horncastle.....	55	60 0	24	27 0	18	24 0	36	38 0	0 0 0
Hungerford.....	50	72 0	24	34 0	19	30 0	40	56 0	0 0 0
Lewes.....	56	64 0	32	0 0	24	25 0	38	0 0	0 0 0
Newbury .....	42	76 0	28	32 0	22	32 0	42	50 0	44 48 0
Northampton....	53	63 0	30	31 0	23	27 0	37	41 0	0 0 0
Nottingham.....	63	0 0	30	0 0	26	0 0	42	0 0	0 0 0
Reading.....	58	76 0	28	35 0	20	29 0	44	50 0	43 50 0
Stamford.....	48	62 0	27	32 0	20	25 6	38	0 0	0 0 0
Stowmarket .....	52	66 0	24	30 0	23	27 0	31	0 0	0 0 0
Swansea.....	62	0 0	30	0 0	20	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Truro .....	64	0 0	35	0 0	30	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Uxbridge .....	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0
Warminster.....	50	61 0	27	35 0	24	29 0	40	56 0	0 0 0
Winchester.....	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0
Dalkeith* .....	29	33 6	21	26 0	19	23 6	18	20 0	16 19 0
Haddington* .....	27	33 0	18	26 0	16	22 0	15	18 0	15 18 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 2 compared with the English quarter.

*Liverpool*, April 25.—The importations of Grain during the past week were so small as scarcely to equal the demand, at fully the prices last noted. The further supplies to this day's market have been greatly increased, which are not included in the import note annexed, owing to yesterday being a holiday at the Custom-house; and in consequence of a larger exhibit of samples, the sales of Wheats and Oats were only to a very moderate extent, at about the prices of this day se'nnight! The sales of other articles of the trade were heavy, at a small reduction in value.

Imported into Liverpool from the 18th to the 24th of April, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 2,177; Barley, 133; Oats, 3,668; Malt, 984; and Pease, 50 quarters. Flour, 420 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 525 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Norwich*, April 29.—The supply of Wheat to-day was very good, and the demand equal to it; prices of Red from 52s. to 60s.; White to 62s.; Barley was 2s. per quarter lower, and the sale slow at that reduction, prices from 22s. to 28s.; Oats but few samples, prices from 22s. to 29s.; Beans, 33s. to 38s.; Pease, 35s. to 39s. per qr.; and Flour, 45s. to 46s. per sack.

*Bristol*, April 29.—The Corn markets here for the last week have been very dull, and the sales made at about the prices below quoted, have been few.—Wheat, from 5s. to 8s.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 3d.; Beans, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 9d.; and Malt, 5s. to 7s. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 47s. per bag.

*Ipswich*, April 29.—We had to-day a pretty good supply of Barley and Wheat, but the Barley was generally of inferior quality. Few Beans appeared. Prices were rather lower than last week, as follow:—Wheat, 56s. to 64s.; Barley, 26s. to 32s.; and Beans, 38s. to 40s.; per quarter.

*Wisbech*, April 29.—There was again a large show of Wheat to-day, which must be noted from 1s. to 2s. lower. In Oats and Beans no material alteration.—Red Wheat, 52s. to 58s.; White ditto, 58s. to 60s.; Oats, 20s. to 24s.; and Beans, 34s. to 38s. per imperial qr.

*Wakefield*, April 28.—Wheat has been this day very dull sale, at a decline of 1s. to 2s. per quarter, and a considerable quantity remained unsold. The depression in price is accounted for by the large supply from the farmers, as well as up the river, and by the dull state of the Flour trade in Lancashire. Oats and Shelling fully supported last week's prices. The Malting season being nearly over, Barley is sold at from 1s. to 2s. per qr. lower than last week. In Rapeseed there is little or nothing doing.

*Manchester*, April 29.—The consternation and tumults that exist in our town and neighbourhood have almost put a stop to any regular business, particularly in Corn. To-day, nothing comparatively has been done in any thing, but the very short supply still keeps prices very steady. Of Oats the supply is rather better, and they may be noted 3d. per bushel lower, on account of the consumption falling off so very much. Malt is a great drag, with good stocks on hand.

*Newcastle-on-Tyne*, April 29.—We had rather a large supply of Wheat from the farmers this morning, which met a slow sale at 1s. per quarter decline from the prices of last week. Rye sells on much the same terms as last week. Although the weather has set in very cold again, the sale for Barley is dull, and prices are 1s. and 2s. per quarter lower. Malt continues dull sale. The supply of Oats is rather large, and last week's prices were barely supported. Wheat, new, 52s. to 60s.; Foreign, 48s. to 54s.; Rye, 40s. to 42s.; Foreign, 32s. to 36s.; Barley, 28s. to 30s.; Foreign, 25s. to 28s.; Malt, 52s. to 58s.; Oats, 21s. to 26s.; Foreign, 19s. to 21s.; Beans, 42s. to 46s.; Pease, White, 48s. to 50s. per quarter, Imperial measure. Flour, 45s. per sack.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, April 29.—We had a good supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, but the Smithfield-market having been much higher the last two weeks, had such an effect on this day's sales, as to cause an advance of 1s. per stone of 14lbs., prices from 7s. to 8s. per stone, sinking offal, and almost all of them sold. The supply of Store Stock Beasts was but small, and the Scots inferior in quality; prices from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone, when fat; Short Horns to 3s. 9d.

*Horncastle*, April 29.—Beef, 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 7d.; Lamb, 10d.; Pork, 6d. to 7d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

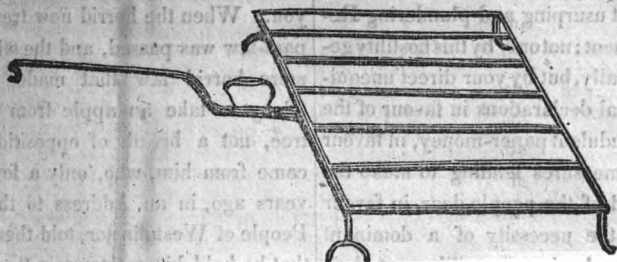
*Manchester*, April 26.—Our market continues to be very sparingly supplied with fat Stock, but as the demand is small also, things seem to bear an equal proportion.

At *Morpeth Market*, on the 26th ult. there was a good many Cattle, which sold readily at an advance in price; also a good supply of Sheep, which met with rather dull sale, at last week's prices.—Beef, from 6s. to 6s. 9d.; and Mutton, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended April 22, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	61	11	34	2	26	9
Essex.....	63	0	34	1	25	0
Kent.....	62	10	32	8	25	10
Sussex.....	60	0	31	9	24	6
Suffolk.....	58	10	32	6	26	2
Cambridgeshire.....	58	8	32	7	22	8
Norfolk.....	58	3	29	7	22	6
Lincolnshire.....	59	2	31	8	21	6
Yorkshire.....	58	9	29	9	21	4
Durham.....	61	2	31	6	26	9
Northumberland.....	55	10	32	10	24	4
Cumberland.....	63	8	28	9	22	6
Westmoreland.....	66	1	40	0	24	0
Lancashire.....	64	1	38	0	25	9
Cheshire.....	64	8	0	0	24	1
Gloucestershire.....	64	1	35	4	28	2
Somersetshire.....	61	9	34	5	23	6
Monmouthshire.....	61	10	35	8	24	6
Devonshire.....	61	2	32	10	21	8
Cornwall.....	61	10	31	5	24	10
Dorsetshire.....	59	6	30	7	24	2
Hampshire.....	58	7	32	0	23	0
North Wales.....	66	1	36	0	19	10
South Wales.....	58	0	28	4	17	4

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.



"The miseries produced by the *system*, must, in the end, if left undressed, *redress themselves*. Great power, which has been long growing together, however it may exert itself, however severe and cruel in its effects, will last a great length of time after its character is gone. A system of sway, such as I am contemplating, will maintain itself, a long while after it is openly reprobated by every man who lives under it. But, at last, the misery which it occasions becomes so intolerable, that it can no longer be endured. It is impossible; it is almost physically impossible, that millions of human beings should *quietly* perish with hunger, or with misery, which occasions death; which manifestly produces death. This is altogether impossible; because the inducement to preserve life by abstaining from violence becomes, in such a state of things, less powerful than the inducement, to preserve it by the means of violence. If I am sure to die for seizing the dinner of another man, still I seize it if I am sure to die with hunger for the want of food; because, at any rate, by seizing the dinner, I secure my life a little while longer."—REGISTER, 10th August, 1816.

TO

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.

Kensington, 9th May, 1826.

SIR,

It is some time since I addressed a Letter to you. For reasons which I shall state before I have done, I was strongly indisposed to do it even now; but, I have, at last, had this indisposition overcome by your series of

uncommonly aristocratical endeavours during this present Session of Parliament; by the wanton hostility that you have shown, not only to all those principles which first recommended you to the people, and bade you talk incessantly about the "Regiment" and the "Crib," and led me as well

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as others to hope that you would endeavour constantly to beat down that usurping and plundering Regiment; not only by this hostility generally, but by your direct unequivocal declarations in favour of the fraudulent paper-money, in favour of measures tending to make the food of the people dear, in favour of the necessity of a dominant class, having the millions at their feet, and, in short, in favour of every thing hostile to the happiness and liberty of the great body of the people. I have, indeed, perceived that there has been a slight whisper from you on the subject of punishment inflicted on regular standing soldiers in time of peace; but, from your lips, there has not, that I have been able to discover, been, for years, a single syllable in behalf of the suffering people. When, two years ago, a Bill was brought into Parliament, to weaken the monopoly of the grinding *brewers*, and to give the people a fair chance of avoiding the effect of that monopoly, not a word came from you in support of that Bill, which you saw chipped away, bit by bit, till it came to next to nothing. When the law was passed to add *transpiration* to the other horrid punishments intended to preserve to the land-owners the exclusive pos-

session of wild animals, not a word of opposition came from you. When the horrid new trespass-law was passed, and the still more horrid law that made it felony to take an apple from a tree, not a breath of opposition came from him, who, only a few years ago, in an Address to the People of Westminster, told them that he held his estates as a "*retaining fee for defending the liberties of the people*." However, these things were passed; they were gone by, and might have remained unnoticed, had it not been for your recent conduct. The times are now of great importance: principles are now to be looked well at: the fate of the country is, in all probability, to be decided by the measures of the next twelve months: and, we ought, therefore, now, to look scrupulously at the opinions put forth by men who stand in your situation.

I shall first notice your speech on the petition from Paisley, which was presented by Lord Folkestone, on the fourth of May; and, that we may have every thing fairly before us, I shall first insert the petition itself, which was in the following words:

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned, Burgesses and Householdors of the town of Paisley,

Humbly Sheweth,

1. That it appears to your Petitioners, that of all the subjects, which have engaged the attention of your Honourable House for many years, there is none so important in all its bearings, as that with regard to the Currency of the country.

2. That your Petitioners are of opinion, that the fatal consequences resulting from the circulation of Paper Money, are now too clearly demonstrated to require particular enumeration;—that from its very nature it is liable to be suddenly augmented and diminished in quantity; that such sudden diminution or augmentation is productive of the utmost embarrassment in the pecuniary affairs of the people among whom it is current. That while the quantity is increasing, it creates and cherishes a spirit of imprudent speculation, subversive of the patient habits of sober and persevering industry; that the inevitable effect of contracting the circulation, is a depression of the price of all commodities, and of property of every description. Hence ensue bankruptcies, misery, and starvation; the arm of industry is paralyzed; prudence, diligence, and honesty, are robbed of their reward; and all confidence between man and man totally destroyed. Such, may it please your Honourable House, is but a very faint outline of the appalling picture which our unhappy country at this moment presents.

3. That your Petitioners are fervently anxious to impress upon your Honourable House, that the distress and wretchedness which the people of Scotland are now experiencing on account of the drawing in of the base Paper Money, are absolutely

indescribable; that on this account, at least one-third of the working population of this town have been thrown out of employment; and that as no legal provision is made for their subsistence, their very existence is dependent on the precarious aid of charity. And your Petitioners are apprehensive, that were the vendors of that false money, which is almost the only circulating medium in this part of the country, called upon to pay their Notes in the legal coin of the realm, the same sort of deplorable occurrences might take place here, which have been productive of so much misery in other parts of the United Kingdom. For these and other reasons, your Petitioners are persuaded, that the speedy introduction of a Metallic Currency throughout the whole Kingdom, is most essentially necessary, not only to restore domestic happiness, but also to preserve its existence as an Independent State.

4. That although your Petitioners are most desirous to see the fraudulent Paper Money superseded by a sterling Gold and Silver Currency, yet they are decidedly convinced that this object cannot be attained, without still farther lessening the amount of the circulating money; by which operation, the value of that which remains must be proportionally augmented; and, therefore, that it is obviously reasonable, that an Adjustment of all Money Contracts; a Reduction of the Government Expenditure; of the Taxes; and of the Nominal Amount of the National Debt, ought at the same time to be made, corresponding with that increase of value.

5. Your Petitioners do, therefore, humbly, yet most urgently, entreat your Honourable House to make such Enactments as will deliver the people of Scotland, in common with their fellow-subjects of the United Kingdom, from the scourge of a false and misery-producing Paper Money; and ensure to them the

benefit of a sterling Gold and Silver Currency; and, at the same time, to institute measures for a suitable Reduction of every branch of the Public Expenditure; of the Taxes; and of the Nominal Amount of the National Debt; and, also, for making an Equitable Adjustment of all Money Contracts.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

*Paisley, 24th April, 1826.*

Lord Folkestone had spoken in praise of this petition, as had Colonel Johnstone, who seconded his motion. Mr. Maberly then followed in disapprobation of the petition, and then, according to the report, you came in the following words: "Sir Francis Burdett said, that he did not agree with the petitioners in their reasoning, and he thought he was able to show that *one part of it was quite inconsistent with the other.* He could not agree with his Noble Friend, therefore, that this petition in any manner deserved to be called *a manual of political economy* on this subject. No one could doubt that great distress arose, *not, however, in the way in which the petitioners described it,* but from the *interruption of all trade* which took place. The petition was founded, he said, in premises *false in themselves and arbitrarily assumed.*"

Thus, then, you condemned this petition. You say that its premises are false in themselves, and arbitrarily assumed. As to their being *arbitrarily* assumed, it is difficult to know what you mean, unless you be come, at last, to believe, that no assertions are to be contained in a petition, unless the truth of them be first established at the bar of your House. This petition comes, Sir, from the burgesses and householders of the town of Paisley, in Scotland. We have, during the last twenty-seven years, had many published papers coming from your pen; but, had we ever one written with such clearness, such neatness of expression, such correctness, and every way so excellently as this petition? Whether Lord Folkestone called it a manual of political economy, I know not; but, as to manner and style, it is worthy of being studied as an example to all future petitioners; and, as to its matter, let us now see, in the first place, whether its premises be false, as you assert them to be. The petition consists of five paragraphs, the second of which contains the premises which finally lead to the prayer of the petitioners. Read that paragraph again. You will find it contains five distinct propositions;

namely, 1. That paper-money is, from its very nature, liable to be suddenly augmented and diminished in quality; 2. That such sudden augmentation or diminution is productive of the utmost embarrassment in the pecuniary affairs of the people among whom it is circulating; 3. That while the quantity is increasing, it creates and cherishes a spirit of imprudent speculation, subversive of the patient habits of sober and persevering industry; 4. That the inevitable effect of contracting the circulation, is a depression of the price of all commodities and of property of every description; 5. That hence ensue bankruptcies, misery and starvation, and that hence the arm of industry is paralyzed, prudence, diligence and honesty are robbed of their reward, and all confidence between man and man is destroyed.

These are the five propositions, containing the premises of the petition; and, are you prepared to say that any one of the five is *false*? Say it indeed you have; but, with the present spectacle of bankruptcy, misery and starvation before you, are you prepared to prove, though with twenty thousand acres at your back, that there is one single word in these five propositions, which is not un-

deniably true? This was a solemn appeal to the House in which you sat, on a subject of the greatest possible importance: it was a subject, which, of all others was calculated to make men cautious in speaking of it. The premises on which the petitioners proceeded were most clearly and candidly stated. If denied, justice to them demanded something like proof of the soundness of the denial; and yet, out come you, without an attempt at anything in the shape of an argument, and declare these premises to be false.

These petitioners pray for what was prayed for three years ago in the Norfolk Petition. They revive the great question; that is to say, whether there shall or shall not be a reduction of the interest of the Debt. They pray that the misery-making paper-money may be abolished; they pray for the currency of the King's coin. It seems a most unnatural thing that a great land-owner should object to a prayer for the King's coin to circulate; but, when these petitioners pray for a reduction of every branch of the public expenditure; for a diminution of the monstrous burden of taxation, how must men be surprised to find you of all men living, hasten-

ing slap-dash, and without any argument at all, to condemn that petition; YOU, who paved your way into the House by declaiming against plunderers, and who told the people, who assured them that, no rational endeavour of years should be omitted to restore your countrymen to the undisturbed enjoyment of the fair fruits of their industry, and to "tear out" *"the accursed leaves of the scandalous Red Book!"* What, when the sensible people of Paisley recollected this, must have been their surprise to hear a condemnation of their petition from you! And not a word more about the "Regiment"; not a word more about the bands that plunder the people. Oh, no; the Regiment is now become a sacred thing, and, as we shall by and by see, the people of France are to be censured by you, and their everlasting ruin predicted, merely because they appear to be resolved, that a "regiment" shall not be re-organized and kept upon duty in their country.

Leaving reflections of this sort for the present, let me observe that we have here upon record your reprobation of this, which will become a memorable petition. The petitions, containing a similar prayer, which came

from Norfolk, Herefordshire, Surrey, and Kent, came in some measure with my direct approbation; and, therefore, there were, doubtless, excellent grounds for rejecting them. Those from Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire were, indeed, liable to no such objection; but, now comes one from Paisley. A place with which I have not even the most indirect communication; a place which contains not a single individual, as far as I know, whose name I have ever heard; now comes a petition from Paisley, praying for all those things which the Norfolk Petition prayed for, and praying for them too, for reasons distinctly stated, and on grounds which no man has yet attempted to shake. And what answer have you to this petition? No answer at all, except a slap-dash assertion that its premises are false. However, here is the petition upon record, and here is your opposition to it also on record. The great question here stated, must come forward again, unless all disputing be put an end to by a terrible convulsion. You say that the petition is inconsistent with itself; and then comes this surprising assertion, that the distress does not arise from the cause stated by the petitioners, but from

"the interruption of all trade!" And is it not this precisely to which the petitioners ascribe the distress? They tell you in so many words that all trade has been interrupted, that industry has been paralyzed, that confidence between man and man has been totally destroyed; that this is the way in which the distress has been produced; and you tell them slap-dash that the distress has not been produced in this way, but by the "*interruption to all trade*." It is well you talk in the absence of these petitioners: it is well for you that they are not upon the same floor with you; but, if they were, your prudence, as in the case of the "*regiment*" and the "*crib*," would induce you to eat your words.

Here, at any rate, we have you, enrolled amongst the heroes of "*national faith*." You reprobate this sensible petition; and all I have further to say to you upon that subject is, that the day will come, when you will be held to your words, or will be compelled to swallow them. I have observed attentively all your hankerings after the paper-money, all your hankerings after the one-pound notes, all your hankerings after the Corn-Bill; and, yet, your want of pluck when it came to the

sticking place, that is to say, when it came to the vote. You censured the Ministers for their *too hasty* endeavours to return to gold and silver; you talked of the distress which it would produce in the country; and, on the very evening in which you bestowed that censure upon them, you did, when it came to the pinch, vote for Mr. Hume's motion, intended to compel bankers to pay by summary process, which unquestionably would have added more haste to the censured haste of these Ministers. Every word that you have uttered upon this subject, during the whole of this session, has been intended to prolong the duration of what these petitioners call the base and fraudulent paper-money, which the Ministers themselves have called worthless rags. You have your motive for this, and I will plainly state that motive.

You see as plainly as I do, that, without an immense mass of paper-money, or without a reduction of more than half of the taxes, farm produce must be so low in price as not to enable the farmer to pay any rent. You wish to have rent, for which nobody can blame you. Seeing, therefore, that you must either have the country filled with paper-



money; or must take off one half of the taxes, you have to choose between these two, and you choose the former, because you have not the industry and the courage to encounter the latter. Nothing is clearer to me than this, that the land-owners would gladly see the interest of the debt greatly reduced, or cleanly swept away, if it could be done without danger to themselves and their families. All other reductions will fall short of producing any salutary effect, unless this reduction take place; and this reduction\* cannot take place without other reductions and changes, which the landlords tremble but to think of. It is impossible that the interest of the debt should be touched, until the sinecures, the pensions, the grants, the enormous emoluments, and until a very considerable portion of that public property which is commonly called Church Property, shall be dealt with in a way so as to indemnify the fundholders in some degree to a just extent. You sat quietly in the House of Commons, and saw sixteen hundred thousand pounds *given out of the taxes* to the clergy of the Church of England. This money came out of *loans*, in fact. The money is due to the fundholders who made the loans; and,

would you take away the interest upon these loans, and still let this enormously rich Church keep the principal? It is a thing too monstrous to be expected even by that regiment of which you spoke in your address to the electors of Westminster on the 23rd of May, 1807. Yes, "the accursed leaves of that Red Book;" even these leaves do not contain the names of men who would have the audacity to make such a proposition.

The difficulty, therefore, is very great. When you wrote that address, your situation was different: you then looked only to the people, the common people. Since that time the gentry of the Red Book have become your favourites. You have been anxious on all occasions to curry favour with them. The clergy of the Church, the country-gentlemen, are become subjects of your loftiest panegyrics. Even the yeomanry cavalry, once denominated by you the body-guard of the Borough-mongers, are now become objects for you to fawn to. You seem to me to have nursed up in your mind the opinion and the hope that this thing will continue; that it can go on by the aid of paper-money. This seems to be a hope to which you most fondly cling. You are aware of

how little a man you would be, if a really great and salutary change were to take place; and my real opinion is, that Sidmouth himself would not contemplate such a change with greater alarm than you do. If such a change were to take place, forth would rush the talent and the energy of the country; men never yet heard of would instantly become conspicuous, and you would instantly sink out of sight. Therefore, not to mention other reasons, numerous and most cogent, you are for *things as they are*; now and then a little cavil upon trifles; but, for the "*Regiment*," you are as much, as decidedly, as strenuously, for its stability as any one of that immaculate corps; hence all your alarms at measures hostile to the paper-money, which, thin as it is, you know is the only prop of the system. Hence your attachment to that base and fraudulent thing, which the people of Paisley so decidedly reprobate, and the miseries produced by which are now manifest to the whole world.

So much for your opposition to this petition. I shall now advert to your speech of the 8th of April, on the subject of the *Corn-bill*; or, rather, on all manner of subjects, mixed up, higgledy-piggledy,

and as difficult to unravel as ever were the sayings of an oracle. Mr. Whitmore had made a motion for going into a committee on the Corn-laws. You voted in favour of this motion; but your speech, as far as it related immediately to the subject, was directly against the motion, and all the way through endeavoured to maintain, that the Corn-laws *had not a tendency to make corn dear*. If they had no such tendency, then the motion for which you voted was an absurdity; for, what was wanted was, a free trade in corn; that was the object of the motion; and why did you vote for it, if the free trade in corn would make no alteration in the price? Your speech is a complete ramble; a jumble of contradictions, and, indeed, of nonsense: but we gather from it, from opinions and assertions here and there introduced, a decided leaning towards every thing aristocratical in the extreme. I will insert, before I proceed further, the whole of this speech. It relates, as I said before, to all manner of things; but there are parts of it, which, as discovering your ultimate views, are worthy of attention.

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Sir F. Burdett said that he differed from the Right Hon. Gentleman op-

posite, inasmuch as he (Sir F. B.) knew of no subject more likely to receive advantage from discussion than that which at present occupied the attention of the House. It was a subject which required to be discussed, and he should think the discussion which had already taken place, as well as that which he hoped would hereafter ensue, profitably bestowed. The observations which he felt it his duty to offer to the House should be divested of all angry animadversions, or insinuations against the measures or motives of certain classes of people—topics which he thought it would be wisdom in all to avoid.—(Hear, hear.) *As a Gentleman of landed estates, in the country, could he think with those who opposed the present motion, that it was likely to be detrimental to the landed interests of the country, he would have a direct interest in giving them that support in their resistance to the measure, which would at the same time enable him to preserve his own station in the country.* But he was satisfied that the true means by which to maintain that station was, to uphold the common advantage of society. He (Sir F. B.) found himself in this novel predicament, that he was about to vote for a motion without participating in the feelings, the views, or the expectations of the Hon. Gentleman who brought the measure forward. He did not think that the measure now urged would lead to the results which the Hon. Mover wished to attain, *or which the opponents of the measure apprehended.* But he would support the motion on different grounds—he would vote for it, because he was persuaded that the interests of the land and the general interests of the country were one and the same, and that they *did not consist in the objects which the Hon. Gent. wished to see effected.* With respect to an allusion made by a Noble Lord, who had spoken with so much eloquence, and with a spirit of patriotism so apparent and so creditable to his heart, although he (Sir

F. Burdett) could not coincide in his views, or think that his judgment had directed him to a right conclusion, yet he could not help admiring the spirit from which his arguments proceeded. The Hon. Member, who seconded the Resolution, had urged one or two arguments in which he (Sir F. Burdett) fully concurred, and he had relied upon another position, from which he dissented. He agreed with that Hon. Member that the welfare of society was to be promoted, not by employing a great number of hands to produce what would, after all, be a small supply for the consumption of the whole people: but by creating a large produce by the skillful and well-directed application of the labour of a few. There were many who thought it a matter of discredit and reflection upon the agricultural portion of the community, that they were less numerically important than the manufacturing classes; but he agreed with the Hon. Gentleman who seconded the Resolution, that, on the contrary, it was a subject of great praise and honour of the agricultural body, that so comparatively insignificant a portion of the population in point of numbers, were able, by the aid of well-regulated industry, to produce a supply sufficient to sustain the entire community in a state of prosperity and abundance—for such, notwithstanding the impediments occasioned by partial and adventitious visitations, was the general condition of the people of this country. This result of the labours of the agricultural classes exhibited a spectacle not equalled in any country in the world. There was no other nation which by a third of its population was able to raise a sufficient supply for the consumption of all its inhabitants: yet this was the effect of the labours of the English agriculturists; four millions of the people being engaged in that occupation, while six millions were employed in manufactures, and two millions devoted themselves to the learned professions and scientific pursuits. This

circumstance gave to this country a superiority over any other nation in Europe. In France, for instance, whose population amounted to 30 millions, four-fifths of that number were employed in agriculture, and the remaining fifth composed the manufacturing classes. The redundancy of the agricultural population, and the small division of property in that country, created a consumption as rapid as the supply, and the necessary consequence was, that the manufacturers were poor and insignificant in number. The manufacturer could not be rich unless the agriculturist was rich too, and the agriculturist could not be rich unless a great return was made to the manufacturer for his produce. It seemed to him that this was the true state of the question. To say manufactures were cheap, was the same as saying corn was dear. It was giving a large quantity of manufactures in exchange for a small quantity of agricultural produce. The manufacturer and agriculturist must flourish and fall together. In proportion as the manufacturer's ingenuity could make returns to the agriculturist for his produce, both would be richer, and the mercantile interest would also prosper in proportion; because the consignment of the merchant depended on the quantity of manufacturing surplus. It was a great mistake to think there could be any separation of interests; they must flourish all together, and the foundation of the whole was the agricultural interest of the country; for without agricultural produce there could be no manufacturing produce, and no great mercantile concerns either. He would ask the men of the learned professions and the men of science, who were so largely remunerated, to cast their eyes abroad and see in how small a proportion, to what was the case in this country, men of the learned professions, or what was called the unproductive classes of society—though they were often, too, the ornaments of society—were remunerated in any

other part of the world. What was this owing to but the immense funds supplied by the agricultural interest? That was the source of all. The interest of that class, when well considered, will be found to be the interest of every other class of the community, and of the labouring class, as much as it was of the rest.—(Hear, hear.) His Hon. Friend near him had said among other things, that there might be great misapplication of capital; that *Snowdon* might be cultivated. It might; and it would be a great misfortune that it should; because how could it be done but by such a misapplication of capital—such immense labour and increase of numbers, that though you would positively augment the gross produce, still you would add so many more to partake of that produce, that the proportion between the gross produce and the whole population, would be in a more disadvantageous ratio than if the mountain remained an uncultivated spot. What was the wealth of a country? The proportion between its numbers and produce. It was that which gave a greater or less share to every individual. A country with a small population, but much gross produce, might be three times as rich as another country with four times the population. It was the great abundance of surplus produce which created wealth and prosperity. Had France only one-half her population, she would be as rich again as England; but she had an immense population, together with a system of law, which went to cut up the roots of prosperity for ever; which prevented the possibility of that accumulation of property which was the real source and precursor of all the rest of the wealth of the country. It had been said, that people were elated with that which was their destruction. It seemed so in France, for there the greatest madness had been shown in opposition to a law, which even if passed, would take a long time to restore her to a state of competent wealth. Gentlemen said, that the

people of that country were well off. It was impossible. Look at the laws of that country; it did not require to go to France to know that every generation had become still poorer than the generation which preceded it.—(Hear, hear.) It was to him clear as daylight, that France was a country in a deteriorated state from what it was, from the various operations of the law from the impossibility of accumulation ever taking place again—the country had, from day to day, been growing poorer and poorer and more and more impotent.—(Hear, hear.) He could not agree that the Corn-Laws had injured the working population of the country, on account of keeping up the high price of bread. To the labouring class of the community the price of any article was comparatively matter of indifference, but it was of some importance to those who employed the labourer. It was of importance to the master manufacturer. Though he wished cheap bread, yet he wanted remunerating prices. He complained as much as any of low prices. Look into the accounts from Glasgow, Paisley, and all parts of the country, and it would be seen that the stagnation of trade was attributed to low prices. That was the universal complaint, and the manufacturers, therefore, did not come with a good grace to complain of the price of agricultural produce. It was of no consequence to the labourers what was the price of the food they consumed. That depended solely on the state of the currency. Gentlemen talked of liberal wages. There was no such thing. Individuals might be liberal, but there was but one reasonable and just mode of carrying on trade, and that was, carrying it on for the benefit of the individual concerned. This question was relieved, as it was to be relieved, of all those topics with respect to the labouring classes. It affected not the labouring classes; they were affected by different causes, and as far as they were concerned, it was of no importance

which way the question was determined. They seemed also themselves to be tolerably well aware of it. He had observed a petition presented to the House, from a melancholy distressed district, Blackburn, that they mentioned the high price of corn only incidentally, but the gravamen of their complaint was the introduction of the power looms. This is what they petitioned against. The high price of corn was merely thrown in incidentally, whilst their complaints were directed against the powerloom, by which a girl or a boy might do that which, in ordinary machinery, required a number of hands to perform. This was a hardship produced by the natural progress of society; yet it was a benefit in the end, to every one, and an incalculable benefit to the community at large. What was it but improved machinery, from time to time, which had raised the wealth of this country to its present height? To legislate on such a motive would be utterly subversive of all improvement and prosperity. The Hon. Gentleman brought forward this motion, and those who supported him, fancied the Corn-Laws tended to make corn dear. He asserted it had no such effect. Facts were uniformly against the theory. First, as to what was stated by the Hon. Gentleman who had brought forward the motion. He had said that not only we were distressed from the Corn-Laws, but that all those other countries where a totally opposite state of things existed—where corn was so cheap—where there was such abundance of superfluous food—there the people were in the greatest possible distress.—(Hear, hear.) That fact showed that there was no connexion between the one case and the other, and that distress might exist both with an abundance and a scarcity of corn. The country gentlemen were under a very great error. If he believed with them, that agriculture demanded the support of these laws, or any other measure, necessary for the purpose, he should

say plainly, as a landed man, that he should think it his duty to maintain his interest and that body amongst which he happened to be placed; but he had also the consolation of having formed an opinion which he could not maintain without maintaining the interest of every other class of society. Gentlemen would call to mind that, during all the time of the most flourishing agricultural condition of this country—during all the period of high prices—there was constantly a large importation of corn. He collected from that fact that there must be something wrong in the theory which said that the importation of corn necessarily produced low prices. For twenty years previous to the passing of the Corn-Laws, there was a large annual importation of Corn. The Honourable Baronet was then proceeding to make some observations on free trade, when there were loud cries of “question, question.” He concluded by expressing his opinion of the great advantage which would be derived if a free trade in corn were established.

This is the speech; and now for an endeavour to understand it. You say that you do not agree that the Corn-Laws have injured the working population of the country, by keeping up the high price of bread. And you further say, that the manufacturers do not come with a good grace to complain of the high price of bread, at the same time that they complain of a stagnation of trade. Indeed! What bad grace is there in their making both these complaints at the same time? It appears to my plain understanding, that nothing

can be more compatible than provisions too dear, and too little trade. If provisions be so dear that the goods cannot be made at a low price, and that thus the market for goods be lost, what can be more reasonable than to complain of the high price of food and of the stagnation of trade? The fault, say you, is not the high price of food. The fault is, you say, in “the state of the currency.” What, the state of the currency? Why, then, do you blame the manufacturers of Paisley for complaining of this unsettled currency? They tell you, that bankruptcies, misery, and starvation, are produced by the paper-money, by a fluctuating currency; they tell you that one-third of their working people have been thrown out of employment by the withdrawing of the base paper-money. You reprobate their petition; you say that their premises are false: but now, in answer to the complaints of other manufacturers, on the score of the Corn Bill, you tell them that it signifies not to the labourers what the price of food may be, and that that is a matter depending “solely upon the state of the currency”! So that none of these unfortunate men can please you: if they complain of the effects of an everlastingly-

changing currency, you tell them that their premises are false; and if they complain that they are compelled to eat dear bread, while their wages are low on account of a stagnation of trade, you bid them hold their peace. You say they come with a bad grace to complain of the Corn Bill; you say that it is no matter to them what price provisions are at, and that all they have to look to is the "*state of the currency*."

In another part of this extraordinarily rambling harangue, you have thought it good to hash up a stale dish of the Edinburgh Review to give us a sort of feelosophical dissertation on the benefits arising to a nation from the raising of a *great produce with a few hands*. This is a favourite doctrine with all those who regard the people as cattle. I shall not enter much here into this new system of Malthusian philosophy, of which I showed the falsehood, when it first came forth; but I shall just take an assertion of your's, introduced into this piece of purloined philosophy. After extolling the benefits to be derived from this great produce arising out of the labour of a few, you proceed thus:—"We are able, by the aid of well-regulated industry, to produce a supply suffi-

cient to sustain the entire community in a state of prosperity and abundance"; for such, notwithstanding the impediments occasioned by partial and adventitious visitations, was the "*general condition of the people of this country*."

I know very well what appellation this assertion deserves; but, suffice it to say, that it never could have proceeded but from ignorance the most profound, or from callousness of heart the most complete. What do you mean by *adventitious visitations*? What visitation has this kingdom had, during the last eleven years, during which time it has been in profound peace with all the world? It has had no bad harvest except one, and that produced no high price of corn; it has had no short crop: it has had no civil war; it has not known what pestilence was. Yet, thousands upon thousands have died with starvation within this kingdom. Four real famines have taken place in certain districts of the kingdom. There is one such famine before your eyes at this moment; and yet you boast of the system which you say gives us general prosperity and abundance. The visitations which we have had have arisen out of the changes in that base paper-money, com-

plained of by the people of Paisley, whose premises you assert to be false. You affect, to ridicule the people of France, because they have shown a strenuous opposition to measures leading to draw property into great masses. Of this ridicule, I shall say little more at present; but I beg you to observe, that during these same eleven years, there have been no visitations in France, no periodical seasons of starvation, no grants of money from the Treasury, no subscriptions, no miserable contrivances to save from dying with hunger the wretched people, plunged into misery by the system which you endeavour to uphold. This being notoriously the case, common decency ought to have restrained you from taking upon you to predict that the people of France could never again be happy, unless they returned to that system of a "*regiment*," of which system you formerly spoke with such decided reprobation.

But, as to the fact which you assert, that the "entire community in this country is sustained in a state of prosperity and abundance," and that that is the general condition of the people in this country; as to this fact, no Minister, no one belonging to the regiment, not one man of all those

myriads who fatten upon the labour of the people ever put forward an assertion more destitute of truth, more unfeeling and profligate. If the present general condition of the people be such as you approve of, such as you like to behold, such as you think reflects honour on the country-gentlemen, as you say it does; if this be the case, you are the most hard-hearted man that ever breathed the breath of life; for I am sincerely persuaded that there is not one of those placemen whom you reviled for so many years, who does not deeply lament the present state of impoverishment and degradation of the main body of the people.

You who among other changes, have become, and, as I understand, at your own solicitation, a justice of peace for the county of Berks; in this capacity, if you fill it as you ought to do, you must know the wretched state of the labouring people in that county, and you must know the change which has taken place in that state within the last five and thirty years. You must know that, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety, the justices of the peace made a scale, according to which the labourers were to be maintained; that the scale expressed the quantity of bread that each person was



to receive in a week; and you must know that the justices of the peace for that county have now fixed an allowance of just half the amount, half the weight of bread, which was allowed in 1790. You must know, too, that those justices now allow, to the labouring man who is at work on the parish account, not so much by one fourth as they allow to convicts in the jails of that county. These facts you must know. You must know, that these poor creatures make one half "*entire*" community as you call it, in Berkshire, where you have large estates. You must know this; you must know, that this is the general state of the labourers of that county; and yet, you stand up in Parliament and assert, that *a state of prosperity and abundance is now the general condition of the people of this country.*

You have great estates in Wiltshire, where, according to the published statement of your eulogist, Mr. William Frend, you have changed great numbers of lifeholders into rack-renters; or rather, have made them no renters at all, but, by taking from them their share in those small properties which you look upon as being so injurious in France, you have reduced them, in all likelihood, to paupers. Evidence, taken before

Committees of the House of Commons, tells us that the labourers of Wiltshire formerly had bread, meat and cheese to eat; and it tells us that they have now potatoes, and nothing but potatoes for dinner as well as for breakfast, carried to them, even in the field. Why, you must know the state in which these people live; you cannot be ignorant of their state; you have seen these reports and evidence as well as I; and yet, you assert that the state of this whole community is that of prosperity and abundance, and that this is the general condition of the people of this kingdom.

You were a member of Parliament in the year 1821. You saw, or you ought to have seen, what is called an agricultural report, made to the House of Commons in that year. In the evidence attached to that report you saw the clearest proof that the wages of labour, compared with the price of food, had fallen off one half in the course of thirty years. You saw several witnesses bearing testimony to the constantly increasing misery of the labouring classes. You saw Mr. Ellman the elder expressly state that forty-five years ago every man in his parish brewed his own beer, and that now not a man did it. Was

there not matter here for you, the friend of the people, to make a subject of inquiry and discussion? Did you ever do it? Not a word did the interesting statement ever draw from your lips. Your tender heart was taken up with anxiety about the backs of those soldiers, who had voluntarily subjected themselves to that species of discipline, and whose backs were well clothed, and whose bellies were well filled. You can coolly, as a magistrate of Berkshire, allot to the poor labouring man less than jail-allowance, while you see the lowest of common soldiers receiving seven shillings and sevenpence a week, together with clothing, fuel, candle and lodging; and, while all this is notorious, you talk as coolly about the prosperity and abundance in which the people live, as if they were feeding and were dressed like the people of Pennsylvania or Connecticut; and you even boast of the spectacle which this country now presents to the world. Your doctrine, relative to the benefit of small numbers and great produce, would be curious if we could not at once trace it to the Scotch and the Malthus school. You seem to have been so full of the doctrines of Malthus, that you went out of your way to preach them to that extent

that the House at last silenced you by the cries of "*question, question.*" Enamoured with this doctrine, fearing apparently that the mouths would at last want to participate in the food, and that a time might come when English labourers might not be content to live on potatoes and potatoes alone, you take this opportunity of censuring the people of France for their having exulted at the defect of a project, which, as you say, would have caused a "*surplus produce*" and an "*accumulation of property.*" You begin by asking "*what is the wealth of a country?*" And then you tell us, that it consists of an "*accumulation of property,*" and that this is to take place by the people, who cultivate the land, rearing a great deal more than they themselves consume. That is to say, your notion of national wealth is, that those who till the earth ought to consume very little of the fruit, but ought to let it go and accumulate in the hands of others. This is your notion of national wealth. And therefore it is not surprising that you should condemn the people of France who have prevented the passing of a law which had a tendency to prevent such transfer and accumulation. Then comes your monstrous assertion, that if France had

only one half of her population, she would be as rich again as England. This is precisely the doctrine of the Edinburgh Reviewers and of the Encyclopædia Britannica, improved upon by the beastly Westminster rump, and promulgated by its beastly agent, Carlile, who have, altogether, and by their joint efforts, now covered the English press with infamy everlasting, by putting forth recipes for the prevention of breeding, the most obscene that ever polluted paper and print. I do not wish to be thought to suppose that you approve of these atrocious publications; but, to this your doctrines tend. You think the people too numerous. You would prevent their increase. You would diminish their numbers, and the Rump and Carlile show us the beastly means.

Now, I am of a directly opposite opinion. The less one man works for another man, the better is the state of society; and have we not experience to prove to us that this is the fact? We hear of no starvation in France. You, indeed, tell us that the people there have grown poorer and poorer, and that you know this without going to France to see the proof of it. You tell us that it is said, that the people of France are well off; but

that you know it to be impossible. This is a strange way of maintaining an argument; but you are resolved that, unless the many work for the benefit of the few, all shall be misery and impotence.

The precise nature of the law which has been rejected in France, I know not; but this I know, that the people regarded it as a step towards a return to that which would cause a smaller number of proprietors, and cause that accumulation of property for which you are so strenuous an advocate. You seem to have forgotten that there was another country, in which this accumulation is likewise provided against. You seem to have forgotten that the state of America gave a flat denial to all your doctrine. If accumulations of property take place there, and take place they will there, and in France, to a great extent, in spite of all laws to prevent them; if accumulations of property take place in America, they are not produced, as they are here, by the fruit of the labours of one man being transferred to another; for there the labouring man lives as well as the proprietor of the soil himself does.

What is this notion of your's, that you double the riches of a country by getting rid of one half

of her people? There is something monstrous in the very sound of it. Until these days, kings and princes estimated the greatness of their country by the number of its people. If a given quantity of food be raised, and a large part of the people be compelled to live upon potatoes, while the good food is taken away and given to those who do not work, how can the wealth of the nation be thereby augmented? Is not the nation a greater nation, if the food be pretty equally distributed amongst ten millions of men, than it would be if the ten millions were reduced to five, and if the half of them lived upon potatoes and gave up all the good food to the rest? The struggle between the people and the government of France has been this. The land is in numerous hands, and the people wish it to remain thus instead of being put into fewer hands; and you call the people of France mad, on account of this their desire; you call them mad because they wish to prevent a comparatively small number of men from drawing property into large masses, and from being the masters of all the rest.

The absurdities and inconsistencies of this rambling harangue are without end. You say, in one place, that manufacturing ma-

chinery is an incalculable benefit to the country, and that "it is *that* which has raised the wealth of the country to its present height." In another part of your speech, you say, that it is "the immense funds supplied by the agricultural interest, which is the source of all our wealth." So that here are two sources, each of which is the cause of all our wealth. However, to notice all the absurdities and contradictions in this speech, is much more than I have leisure to do at present: Your main object seems to have been to cause it to be believed, if possible, that the people were quite well enough off; and that it was an error to suppose that they could derive any benefit from an abolition of the Corn-Laws. You positively denied that those laws tended to make corn dear; you denied that the importation of corn produced low prices; and there is the fact staring you in the face; that corn has fallen five shillings a quarter in one week; in consequence of a resolution of the House to let in a trifling quantity of bonded corn! You repeatedly assert that the importation of corn has no effect upon the price. You repeatedly assert that to lower the price of corn would be no benefit to the manufacturers or to any

part of the people. You chop about backward and forward a good deal, it is true; but you return again and again to the charge, that nobody is injured by the high price of bread; and yet, at last, when you begin to talk of free trade, and are frightened at the sound of "*question, question, question,*" you hastily conclude by saying that "*great advantage would be derived from a free trade in corn*"! Your ramble had apparently exhausted the patience of the House, and you finished with a phrase that might be a salvo to the whole tenour of the speech.

Twice in the course of this speech, you asserted your right, as a landed man, to maintain the interest of your cast. In the beginning of the speech, there are these words, "As a gentleman of landed estates in the country, could he think with those who opposed the present motion that it was likely to be detrimental to the landed interest of the country, he should have a direct interest in giving them that support in their resistance, which would enable him to preserve his own station in the country." Towards the close of the speech we have these words: "If he believed that agriculture demanded the support of these laws, or

"any *other measure* necessary for the purpose, he should say plainly, *as a landed man*, that he should think it *his duty* to maintain his interest and that of the body amongst which he happened to be placed." This doctrine, this political morality, has, at any rate, the recommendation of novelty. It differs materially from the doctrine of your letter to the Electors of Westminster in 1819, when you declared that you held your estates as a *retaining fee* for defending the rights and liberties of the people. As a member for Westminster, your most imperative duty is to defend the rights, liberties and properties of the people of that city. Out of the House, indeed, your own interests may laudably be the object of a great portion of your care; but never did the people of Westminster; never did even the Westminster Rump, send you into that House to maintain the interest of the landlords, or of anybody else connected with the land; and the principle which you have broached here, and which was never, I believe, broached before, even by any member of that House, is a principle as destitute of decency, and as mischievous in its tendency, as any thing ever broached by Castlereagh himself.

I have now done with this

speech. For some time I suffered it to remain unnoticed; and my reason for doing so I will now give. By certain friends it was announced to me, by showing me the copy of a letter from under your own hand, that you were, or were to be, a subscriber to the fund for defraying the expenses of my intended election. These friends prevailed upon me to refrain from censuring this speech; from speaking of it even in the manner in which they themselves spoke. I assented to their wishes; but, when I saw your attack upon the petition from Paisley, which was, in fact, an attack upon those principles to endeavour to enforce which, and for that purpose only, I am at all desirous of sitting in the Parliament; when I saw that attack, I felt that it would be infamy to keep silence, and especially from the motive of procuring by that silence, any portion of the means necessary to accomplish an end, gratifying to myself. This is the true cause of the delay in noticing this that I deem most unwarrantable speech; most daring attack upon every thing most dear to the people of England. Your endeavours, be they as artful and as strenuous as they may, will never make the people believe that Corn-Bills tend to

their good. I know well, that rents cannot be paid in any thing like approaching a gold and silver currency, unless there be a law effectually to shut out foreign corn; or, unless the taxes be reduced in amount one-half; but, I want the taxes reduced one-half; and that is a subject upon which you never say a word. The reasons why you do not I have before stated. I do not wish to deprive the landlords of rents. I know that it is just, and not only just, but for the good and happiness of us all, that the landlords should retain their station in society; but, it is not just, and it is far from the good of us all, that they should, by a tax on bread, throw the whole of the burthens on the rest of the community. Let them come forward and propose a reduction of the taxes. If they will do that, the rest of the community will cordially join them. If they will not do that, let them go without rents; or, at least, let them not be suffered to be protected from loss, while all the rest of the community are losing. The import-duty of 12s. a quarter on wheat, and the duty imposed on other sorts of grain, tell us precisely what taxes we pay to put rents into landlords' pockets. This is the plain state of the case. If

you take off the duty; if you take off this tax on bread, you prevent your tenants from paying your rents; that is to say, unless you make a sweep at the taxes. Make a sweep at the taxes, and you will have rents without any tax on bread. The good of taking off taxes will be felt by every creature in the community: the manufacturer will have wages proportioned to the price of his food. Skeletons will no longer prowl about the fields; we shall all be well off, and all will be harmony and happiness. The remedy is therefore with yourselves: you may apply it whenever you please: apply it, and you have my hearty approbation and thanks: apply it not, and if the last man of you go to the workhouse, you will go there with the scorn and contempt of

WM. COBBETT.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have read the report of the proceedings at the Common Council in London, and, in that report, the following speech from a Mr. HUNTER. I beg you to look at it, and to reflect, at the same time, on what you have said about that abundance and that prosperity, in which, as you assert, the people in this country live.

Mr. *Hunter*, in supporting the motion, said he had received the following letter from a Manchester manufacturer, on whose veracity he had every confidence:—"A very worthy poor weaver, named Jonathan, applied to his master, about three weeks since, begging earnestly for work, stating that he was in great want, and would thankfully do any thing for the means of supporting his existence. His master assured him he did not want any more goods, his stock already being very heavy without any sale, and that he could not give out more work to any one. The man pressed very much, and at length his master said, 'Well, Jonathan, if it is absolutely necessary for you to weave a piece, to prevent you from starving, I will let you have it, but I cannot give you more than one shilling for it (two shillings a piece is the regular price), for I really do not want any more goods made up for a long time to come.'—"Let me have it master, I beg," said the poor man, 'whatever you pay me for it; pray let me have it.' The piece was given to him to weave, and at the end of two days, he brought it home, and on carrying it to his master, begged of him to give him eighteen-pence for it, saying how much he was distressed for the money. His master paid him the eighteen-pence, and the man went away. The master feeling very uncomfortable about the poor man, and thinking the earnestness of his manner must arise from excessive want, determined on following him home. He found the wife alone in the lower room making a little gruel over a poor fire: 'Well, Mary,' said he, 'where is Jonathan?'—"Oh, Sir," said she, 'he is just come in from your house, and being very faint and weary, he is just gone to lie down in his bed.'—"I think I'll go up and see him," Mary," said the master; and immediately he went up to the upper room, where he saw the poor man just in the agonies of death, with his mouth open and his hands clenched,

and after a short convulsion, *he expired.* The master was very much distressed, and came down stairs, hoping to be able to save the wife, who was in a very emaciated condition—she had just poured the gruel into a basin, intending to carry it up to her husband. The master said, Come, Mary, take a little yourself first:—‘No, Sir,’ said she, ‘not a drop will I take, till Jonathan has had some. Neither of us have had *any thing but water within our lips the two days we were weaving your piece,* and I thought it best to make a little gruel for us before we took any thing stronger, as it is *so long since we tasted food.*’ Finding he could not prevail on her to touch the gruel, he was obliged to tell her that her husband was dead. The poor woman set down the basin of gruel, *sank on the floor, and immediately expired.*”

This is, perhaps, only one instance out of thousands upon thousands. The Irish papers tell us that hundreds are starved, actually have starved to death within these few weeks. You assert that the people of France *cannot* be well off, because there is so great a number of small proprietors of the land, and because there are so few, comparatively, of manufacturers. This shows your supreme ignorance of the state of France, where the far greater part of the manufacturing is carried on under the same roof where the tillers of the land live. You seem to have read nothing and to know nothing; to lead you to just conclusions upon these subjects. You seem to have collected together a parcel

of the scraps of the Scotch philosophy, which regards as wealth nothing but property drawn into great masses, and which regards the working people, not as human beings, having all an equal right to that happiness which proceeds from an abundance of food and raiment; but as a sort of two-legged machines, whose existence at all ought not to be deemed of any importance except as it may be made conducive to the raising of taxes and to the drawing of property into those great masses which make nobles and country-gentlemen.

It is thought by some naturalists that the character of mind, and that even the very nature, of certain men, undergo a complete change at some period of their life. One would think that you had experienced a change of this sort. That fine passage in the writings of the old Chancellor Fortescue; that passage, in which he lauds the laws of England, because one effect of them is to cause the people “to have plenty of *flesh and fish every where*; to be clothed in *good woollens throughout*; to have good bedding and furniture, and that in great store; to have an abundance of all things conducing to make man’s life easy



"and happy:" this passage of old Fortescue, to which I have so often referred, was first pointed out to me BY YOU, as a contrast to the misery experienced by this same English people in the present day. Nay, you once read this passage yourself, from your place in the House of Commons, just about eight years ago. They laughed at you; but so they did when Ogden's rupture was the subject. At that time you deplored the misery of the people of England. Nothing was heard from your lips but attacks upon the system which had produced that misery; but now, when the misery is greatly increased, is far greater than it was eight years ago; when it notoriously goes on steadily increasing; when you see from returns laid before your own House, that the annual convictions at the assizes have swelled up, during the last twenty years, from *two thousand to fourteen thousand*: having all this before your eyes, you have now the hardihood to state, in that same House of Commons, that the people of this country, that the "*entire of the community*" live in a state of prosperity and abundance, and that this is the general condition of the people. You call upon the world to admire the spectacle which we

exhibit; and you censure and ridicule the French people for having successfully resisted a law, the natural tendency of which was to draw property into great masses.

Can you bring us from France any instances of starvation? Can you bring us any instances of suffering from want? We have had, during the last eleven years, four famines in the midst of plenty. Our churches almost still echo with the thanksgivings for a plentiful harvest. In the midst of this plenty, a part of the people are actually starving, and a very large part indeed are pining in want. The system which you admire makes a few great proprietors, a few great renters, a few gentlemen, three times the number of small, mock gentlemen, and millions of potato-eating slaves. The system to which the French people are attached is that which secures to the millions, something like ownership in the soil. Scarcely any labourer in France is solely dependent on wages. The far greater part are more or less of proprietors, each of them has something of a store in his cottage. Is not this better than to see a swarm of miserable hirelings, who are constantly in debt to the village shop, whose harvest wages

are mortgaged before-hand ; who have no cow, pig, hen, sheaf of corn, bundle of flax or lot of wool, nothing in the granary ; not a farthing's worth of any thing that is not doled out of a Saturday night from the haughty bull-frog, or from the grinding overseer ? The whole body of labourers in this kingdom are constantly *in debt* ; theirs, like all the dealers' and all the manufacturers' and the Government's itself, is a miserable system of anticipation. A single day's illness with the father of the family makes the whole family paupers. You know nothing of France, if you do not know that the state of the working people there is the reverse of this ; and yet you ridicule them because they seem determined not to exchange their system for ours. When you talk of *national wealth*, you leave the great mass of the people out of the question. You can see no wealth that is not visible in fine houses, fine roads, immense warehouses, manufactories like palaces, soldiers covered with gold and silver lace and prancing about upon horses as fat as ortolans. You forget that every labouring man makes *a part* of the nation, and that his cow, his hens, his good warm clothing and bedding make part of the national wealth. Such

wealth formerly existed here and in great abundance : taxes and paper-money have converted this wealth into fine carriages and horses, and all the other showy things belonging to this false and wicked system. The working people having been beggared by this system. The poor-rates have come in order to prevent them from committing deeds of desperation. These are swelled up to an enormous sum annually. Turn this annual sum into a principal of thirty years' purchase, and you will find it amount to more than two hundred millions of pounds sterling. This is a *debt*, in fact, contracted by the system ; contracted with the working classes, to pay them for the food and the clothing and the fuel and the lodging, which the system has taken away by taxes and paper-money. This is the true view of the matter ; and while this is as clear as daylight to every man of common sense, you talk about the "*national wealth*," created by this "*accumulation of property*." Look at this debt of more than two hundred millions, contracted in order to keep a half-starving people quiet. This is your national wealth. You have no other that you can point out, if you were to

rant and bawl away to the end of your life.

But, what do we want more than the *subscription* now going on in London? There is the *law*; a law which effectually provides that all necessitous persons shall be relieved by assessments upon the land. There is the law authorizing, and, indeed, compelling the overseers, and the magistrates, to provide necessaries for all persons in want. If this law be enforced, how comes starvation to exist in England? If this law cannot be enforced; if we be come to this pass; if even the land itself cannot supply necessaries to the indigent; is it not to be presumptuous beyond adequate description to applaud this state of things; to cry up this system, and to censure the people of France because they resolutely set their faces against the first dawn of efforts making an approach towards this same system? What are the overseers and the magistrates in Lancashire and Yorkshire about? Where is the law of the land? Why, the distress is so great and so general, that even this law is unavailing, and poor Jonathan and his wife, and ten thousands of others, must perish in the face of that law which Blackstone says securely provides for the preventing

of any man from suffering from want.

Now, Sir, when you have reflected on all this, muster up, if you can, when the occasion serves, to repeat your rambling, slapdash, aristocratical assertions. We gather this from your rambles, namely, that you anxiously wish the present system to remain unshaken: this is what we gather, and especially from your attack on the Paisley petition; and, I venture to predict that the result, and that at no very distant day, will disappoint all your hopes and expectations, and will give you a source of mortification to the end of your life. You are now an openly-declared man of the system: with that system you must stand; or, with it, you must sink into disgrace and finally into oblivion.

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I take the following sensible letter from the *Morning Herald* of the 5th of this month. I insert it as worthy the attention of my readers.

*To the Editor of the Morning Herald.*

SIR—When we consider the nature of the measure brought forward by the Government for the relief of

the country, which is to authorize the admission of foreign corn into our markets, on paying of certain duties, we should almost be justified in concluding that the Government, instead of desiring to assuage our distresses, was studious only of the means of laying fresh burdens upon a starving people. I think I have shown, in my letter to you of the 3d inst., that the admission of foreign corn, unaccompanied by a repeal of taxes on agriculture, would have the effect of levying, in the shape of duties, an additional tax upon the community. I will now make a short remark as to the amount of such tax. It is stated, in your paper of the 3d; that the quantity of wheat and wheat-flour in bond is estimated at 333,891 quarters. This quantity, though sufficient only for two or three days' consumption for the country, would, on its admission, take from the people, in duties, the sum of 172,085 L., exclusively of what would be raised by the duties on barley, oats, beans, rye, peas, and meal, making in all, probably, two or three times that amount. This, I hope, is pretty well to begin with.

Now, though it is sufficiently clear that the object of laying any duty at all, in the present instance, on the bonded corn, is to prevent the importer from obtaining any unreasonable profit for it in the home market, yet surely there can be no reason why the proceeds of the duties should be appropriated by the Government to itself; since the relief to be afforded to the manufacturer is to be given at the expense of the landed interest.

What I would recommend, therefore, in order to render the proposed measure truly efficient, would be, to cause the amount of the duties derivable from the admission of the bonded corn into our market to be distributed to the poor suffering weavers, who may otherwise, from want of the ability to purchase, be withheld from deriving the full be-

nefit of the present measure. Should this plan, however, be rejected, it is clear that the amount belongs in justice to the landed interest; in whose favour, therefore, *some tax, to the amount of the proceeds of those duties should be repealed.*—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

H. JESSUP WRIGHT.

*Sonning; near Reading,  
May 5, 1826.*

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

*Received 1st May, 1826.*

- From Leeds—by Mr. Mann.
- From a few friends at Acton.
- From Cambridge—by Mr. John Headly, Stapleford.
- From Wiltshire.
- From Coventry—by Mr. Hickley.
- From Newark.
- From Norfolk and Norwich—by Mr. Geo. Wright.
- From Garratt, near Manchester—by Mr. Whitworth.
- From Rochdale—by Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Coomb.
- From some friends in Yorkshire—by John Foster, Esq.
- From a few friends at Fyfield.
- From Walton, Norfolk.

In the list of collections received on the 6th April, the name of Mr. Thomas Smith, of Liverpool, was accidentally omitted.

## MARKETS.

**Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending April 29.**

<i>Per Quarter.</i>			
	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
Wheat ..	60	9	Rye .... 35 4
Barley ..	31	4	Beans ... 37 8
Oats ....	24	4	Pease ... 39 5

**Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended April 29.**

	<i>Qrs.</i>		<i>Qrs.</i>
Wheat ..	41,329	Rye ....	273
Barley ..	15,374	Beans ...	3,000
Oats ...	29,031	Pease ...	614

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

**Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, April 29.**

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wheat..	5,679	for 18,338	0	7	Average, 64 6
Barley..	4,127	.. 6,452	10	1	.....31 3
Oats..	12,296	.. 16,251	11	11	.....26 5
Rye....	88	.. 140	1	6	.....31 10
Beans..	1,398	... 2,719	2	9	.....38 10
Pease ..	449	.... 854	16	10	.....38 0

Friday, May 5.—The arrivals of all sorts of Grain are good. The unexpected measure of Government relative to the bonded Corn has completely stagnated the trade, and Wheat is reported, nominally, 4s. to 5s. per quarter lower than Monday last. Barley and Oats are each 2s. per quarter cheaper, with little doing. There is no trade for any other article.

Monday, May 8.—The two resolutions which last week passed the

House of Commons are in substance as follows:—1st, That all foreign Corn, bonded prior to the 2d of this month, is to be liberated for home consumption at a duty, on Wheat, of 12s.; Beans, Pease, and Rye, 8s.; Barley, 6s.; and Oats, 4s. per quarter. 2dly, That Government are to have a discretionary power, during the recess of Parliament, of admitting 500,000 quarters more of foreign Corn, without restriction either as to price or duty.

The arrivals of last week were moderate, except of Flour and Oats, which were tolerably good. This morning the fresh supply of all descriptions of Corn is small. There has been rather more business doing in the Wheat trade to-day than on Friday last, at a decline of 4s. to 5s. per quarter since this day se'nnight.

Barley has suffered a reduction of 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Beans are 1s., and Pease of both kinds 1s. per quarter lower than last Monday. The Oat trade has experienced a check in common with other articles, and sales have been made at 2s. per quarter less than the quotations of Monday last, with rather more business doing than on Friday. There is no alteration in the Flour trade. Considerable advances have been asked on bonded Corn, but no sales can yet be effected.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack .....	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	42s. — 46s.
— North Country .....	40s. — 43s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from May 1 to May 6, both inclusive.

Qrs.		Qrs.	
Wheat.. 5,500	Tares ....	349	
Barley .. 761	Linseed ..	522	
Malt.... 3,634	Rapeseed ..	—	
Oats .... 20,272	Brank ..	414	
Beans ... 1,299	Mustard ..	—	
Flour.... 8,730	Flax ....	—	
Rye..... —	Hemp ...	—	
Pease.... 366	Seeds ..	—	

Foreign.—Wheat, 1,589; Barley, 200; and Oats, 9,521 quarters.

Monday, May 8.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 831 firkins of Butter, and 2,242 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports 6,147 casks of Butter.

## HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, May 8.—The accounts from Kent and Sussex state the Hop bines as having received much injury from the late frosts; flea increases; so general is the alarm, that many have withdrawn their samples; what are on sale readily fetch 20s. per cwt. advance for New, and 10s. to 15s. for Old, since last week. The market is now nearly cleared of New and Yearling Hops.

Maidstone, May 4.—The continuance of cold weather, with the frosty nights, is far from congenial to the Hop plantations; the bines in many places look very bad; there is a great deal of flea, and they want warm weather. There are now so few Hops in the planters' hands, that we have here nothing doing in the trade, which we hear is getting higher.

Worcester, May 3.—On Saturday 175 pockets were weighed; another rise in price took place, and the average may now be stated at 10l. to 11l. 11s. This rise may be in some degree attributed to the unfavourable accounts from the plantation; the frosty nights and cold winds have backened the most vigorous bine; the plants generally come up *unsuitably*, and many, which at the throwing down appeared healthy, are dying away. In some yards the flea has very much increased.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 8.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	8	to	4 10
Mutton ...	4	2	—	5 4
Veal .....	5	8	—	6 0
Pork .....	4	8	—	5 2
Lamb .....	5	6	—	6 4
Beasts ...	2,707		Sheep ..	18,500
Calves ...	163		Pigs ...	160

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 2
Mutton ...	4	0	—	5 0
Veal ....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	4	0	—	6 0
Lamb .....	4	0	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton ...	4	4	—	5 2
Veal .....	3	4	—	5 10
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 6
Lamb .....	4	4	—	7 0

COAL MARKET, May 5.

*Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.*

58½ Newcastle..	33½	26s. 0d. to 36s. 6d.
10½ Sunderland..	10½	33s. 6d. — 37s. 6d.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10 to 6 0
Middlings.....	3 0 — 0 0
Chats.....	2 15 — 0 0
Common Red.....	0 0 — 0 0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10 to 5 10
Middlings.....	2 0 — 3 0
Chats.....	2 0 — 0 0
Common Red.....	3 0 — 5 10

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....70s. to 90s.

Straw...34s. to 36s.

Clover.. 85s. to 110s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 60s. to 100s.

Straw .. 33s. to 43s.

Clover .. 70s. to 105s.

Whitechapel.—Hay....66s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 42s.

Clover..86s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.
Aylesbury.....	56	62	0	33	36	0	28	30	0	42	48	0	0	0	0
Banbury.....	58	64	4	30	31	0	24	28	0	40	48	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke....	55	68	0	28	30	0	23	28	0	46	50	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	55	63	0	32	34	0	22	24	0	46	48	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	48	70	0	29	31	0	25	30	0	34	38	0	36	40	0
Derby.....	58	63	0	27	32	0	24	29	0	41	44	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	48	60	0	29	35	0	26	30	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	52	64	0	27	31	0	22	27	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	60	70	0	32	34	0	23	26	0	28	32	0	0	0	0
Eye.....	54	60	0	30	32	0	22	26	0	34	36	0	32	34	0
Guilford.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henley.....	57	73	0	28	34	0	23	30	0	45	53	0	45	50	0
Horncastle.....	50	55	0	23	25	0	17	20	0	33	35	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	48	67	0	24	34	0	20	30	0	40	56	0	0	0	0
Lewes.....	56	70	0	0	0	0	24	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbury.....	42	70	0	26	30	0	23	32	0	42	50	0	44	48	0
Northampton....	56	62	0	28	30	0	23	26	0	38	44	0	0	0	0
Nottingham.....	58	60	0	29	0	0	25	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0
Reading.....	61	75	0	26	32	0	19	27	0	44	50	0	43	50	0
Stamford.....	55	57	0	27	0	0	18	23	0	24	45	0	0	0	0
Stowmarket.....	52	66	0	24	30	0	23	27	0	31	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea.....	66	0	0	30	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro.....	67	0	0	35	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge.....	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warminster.....	46	56	0	25	34	0	22	28	0	42	52	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	61	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*	28	33	0	20	25	0	18	22	6	18	20	0	16	18	0
Haddington*	25	33	0	18	24	0	15	21	6	15	19	6	15	18	0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

*Liverpool*, May 2.—At this day's market the attendance was very considerable, with very little demand for any article of the trade. Irish Wheats may be considered at a reduction in value of 2d. per 70 lb. from the prices of this day se'nnight; Oats 1d. per 45 lb., Malt 1s., and Malting Barley 2s. per quarter; Flour 1s. per 280 lb., and Oatmeal 1s. per 240 lb. The weather continues highly favourable for the late sown and coming crops.

Imported into Liverpool from the 25th April to 1st May, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 7,788; Barley, 958; Oats, 24,267; Malt, 3,048; Beans, 644; and Pease, 87 quarters. Flour, 3,379 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 2,763 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Norwich*, May 6.—Our market to-day was completely stagnated in consequence of the proposed measures of Ministers, viz., the liberation of the bonded Wheat, and allowing the importation of foreign Corn by the payment of a duty of 12s. per quarter during the recess; what little was sold, was sold at a reduction of 8s. per quarter; prices of Red from 43s. to 54s.; White to 56s.; Barley 22s. to 27s.; Oats 21s. to 28s.; Beans 34s. to 38s.; Pease 34s. to 39s. per quarter; and Flour 45s. per sack.

*Bristol*, May 5.—Our Corn markets at this place are extremely dull, and scarcely any sales can be effected. The prices hereafter named are as correct as can at present be ascertained:—Wheat, from 5s. to 8s.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; Oats, 2s. 1d. to 3s. 3d.; Beans, 3s. to 5s. 6d.; and Malt, 5s. to 7s. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 45s. per bag.

*Birmingham*, May 4.—A moderate show of all kinds of Grain at to-day's market, and but very little business doing, in consequence of the expected liberation of what is in bond. Wheat from 4d. to 6d. per 60 lbs.; and Barley 3d. to 4d. per bushel lower than on this day se'nnight; in other Grain no alteration.

*Ipswich*, May 6.—We had to-day a small supply of all Corn, but the prices of every thing were considerably lower, in consequence of the recent measures of Ministers. Prices as follow:—Wheat, 54s. to 62s.; Barley, 24s. to 31s.; and Beans, 36s. to 38s. per quarter.

*Wisbech*, May 6.—In consequence of the proceedings in Parliament relative to importation of Corn, the trade here was nearly at a stand, there being but little disposition in either buyer or seller to do business until the question is determined.

*Wakefield*, May 5.—The resolution taken by Government to release the bonded Corn has produced a considerable sensation in the market, and a reduction of from 2s. to 3s. per quarter in the price of Wheat, of which there was a good supply at this day's market. No one knowing what effect may be produced by the new measure, trade is dull, even at the reduced prices. Shelling has declined 1s. per load, and Oats are dull of sale, and rather lower.

*Manchester*, May 6.—In consequence of the admission of bonded Grain and Flour, for home consumption, our market may be said to be at a stand, the buyers conjecturing it will have the effect of lowering prices materially, whereas from the scarcity of our own produce it cannot reduce prices much; however, at present, the panic has its weight, and the market has given way 6d. to 8d. on Wheat, and 3d. to 4d. on Oats. Flour has also given way about 3s. per sack.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow, May 6.*—The supply of fat Cattle, to this day's market was very large, and several lots remained unsold, prices from 7s. to 8s. per stone of 14lbs., sinking offal. Store Stock was also supplied in large numbers; what few Scots were sold, were from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone when fat. Short Horns, of which we had several lots of good ones, to 3s. 9d. Sheep penned in large numbers; Shearlings but few, and those sold at 44s. Pigs in great plenty, and very cheap.

**AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of  
England and Wales, for the Week ended April 29, 1826.**

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	63	9	32	5	27	2
Essex .....	64	2	33	1	25	2
Kent.....	64	6	32	4	26	3
Sussex.....	59	4	0	0	23	4
Suffolk .....	59	10	31	7	27	8
Cambridgeshire.....	57	8	31	6	22	6
Norfolk .....	59	0	28	10	24	0
Lincolnshire .....	59	3	28	10	21	6
Yorkshire .....	58	2	29	5	21	1
Durham .....	61	2	0	0	27	4
Northumberland .....	54	10	32	5	24	7
Cumberland .....	62	3	30	7	22	9
Westmoreland .....	66	7	39	0	24	4
Lancashire.....	64	3	36	0	25	7
Cheshire .....	64	0	40	10	23	10
Gloucestershire.....	64	4	34	3	25	9
Somersetshire .....	61	5	34	10	21	4
Monmouthshire.....	61	2	39	8	24	6
Devonshire.....	61	10	33	2	19	5
Cornwall.....	61	9	31	9	25	7
Dorsetshire .....	59	2	29	10	24	0
Hampshire .....	60	2	30	6	25	7
North Wales .....	66	1	37	3	24	1
South Wales .....	57	7	27	10	18	3

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

VOL. 58.—No. 8.] LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1826. [Price 6d.



## TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF PRESTON.

*Kensington, 7th May, 1826.*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,

THE breasts of few men have been more frequently and more powerfully agitated than mine : the long struggle which it has been my lot to maintain against error, corruption and oppression ; the loads of calumny that I have had to endure ; and the perils of various sorts to which I, with a numerous and most beloved and virtuous family along with me, have so often been exposed ; these, though I have to bless God for an uncommon portion of patience

and of fortitude, have, under various circumstances, produced feelings of anxiety greater than have ever been known to the heart and mind of almost any other man : yet, indescribably great as my anxiety has been on so many occasions, nothing of the kind, ever felt by me, is to be compared with the desire that I have NOW ; in this season of suffering of the people and of danger to the country, to be enabled, and particularly to be enabled by YOU, to exert, in the most effectual manner, whatever talent I may possess, in order to cause to be adopted those salutary reforms, which I have so long, and so urgently recommended, and without which *time* and *events* have now proved, that irresistible hunger must, at last, stalk forth, and

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

involve the whole community in one common ruin.

Gentlemen, I wish, above all things I wish, that all parties may, in this crisis of our country, forbear from acting on the feelings inspired by a recollection of *old grievances*; and I beseech you to believe, that no such feelings actuate me, upon this occasion. If, therefore, I now carry you back to the year 1819, it is not for the purpose of reviving the irritations of that dreadful day; but for the purpose of applying your own expressions of that day, and my professions of that same day, to the great circumstances, the tremendous events which have occurred since that time, and to bring the whole to bear upon the still greater circumstances which are now before us.

It would argue the absence of a heart from my bosom, were I not to feel proud at the situation in which I now stand, hearing, as I do, at the end of twenty years of calumny and abuse poured out upon me; at the end of twenty years of ridicule and scoffing played off against me; to hear, after this, the whole nation, rich as well as poor, enemies as well as friends, three hundred newspapers that had been reviling me all the time; all, yea ALL, with

one accord, proclaiming that I am right. But, great as my satisfaction is, under these circumstances, it is greatly enhanced, when I reflect, that I have justified those opinions respecting my efforts, which YOU were kind enough to express, in those addresses, which you did me the honour to present to me, upon my landing from America in the dismal and disgraceful year above-mentioned. The original of those addresses I have preserved, with the greatest care. I have them, at this moment, those from Leeds, from Manchester, from Bolton-le-Moor, from Ashton-under-Line, from the females of several places in Yorkshire and Lancashire, from the county of Lancaster generally, and lastly, from you, the people of Preston. These addresses, with their signatures, which are all now spread out on the floor of the room in which I am sitting, nearly cover that room, eighteen feet wide and twenty feet long. These papers are my proudest possession; I shall leave them to my children with more pride than I should leave the parchments, giving them the inheritance of the most extensive domains.

I shall now, as being most applicable to the great subject

Before us insert here, first the address of the county of Lancaster generally, and then the address that I had the honour to receive from yourselves. The nation will here see the most conspicuous proofs of your public spirit and your foresight; it will see that these terrible subsequent events were all anticipated by you; it will see that you expected *much* from my future exertions; and, it will also see, I trust, that I have not disappointed those expectations.

## LANCASHIRE ADDRESS

TO

MR. COBBETT.

Dear and much esteemed Sir,

We, the inhabitants of Lancashire, deem ourselves happy in an opportunity to address you. The moment in which you return to your native country is most eventful; an awful crisis appears to be impending! On the one hand, we behold the people sinking, or becoming desperate under accumulated burthens and privations, and exasperated by unlawful violence and insult; whilst on the other, their enemies are beset with difficulties and embarrassments; the natural and inevitable

results of former rapacity and extravagance.

You, Sir, have long and most assiduously laboured to warn the spoilers of the precipice to which they were advancing. With unparalleled clearness of expression and energy of reasoning, you demonstrated the tendency and foretold the issue of their course of folly and injustice; pleading, at the same time, the rights of your injured and suffering countrymen: but deaf alike to the admonitions of reasoning and to the claims of justice; intent only on expedients to preserve and extend their profitable proceedings, those enemies have pushed on in their unfeeling career, until they have amply justified all your warnings, and *until events are fast realizing all your predictions.*

Your labours, Sir, during your absence from us, while they have warmed and enlightened us in the sacred cause of Reform, have been the subject of admiration amongst us, and the cause of confusion and shame to our enemies. The industry, perseverance, and fortitude exhibited in the labours of your life, and more especially during the late two years and a half of that life, will serve as a bright example to our children; while their more immediate effects

have been and will be of unspeakable benefit to ourselves. Proceed, Sir, in the course you have so successfully pursued; continue by your great talents and energies to sustain the cause of the injured; to dispel the sophisms of the venal and profligate, and to beat down the pretensions of the arrogant: from your powerful aid at this critical period, we anticipate the most benign consequences to our lawful Sovereign, and to his faithful, but suffering and insulted people, while we confidently expect, from that aid, the overthrow of that which is so detestable in itself, and which has been the sole cause of all our calamities and all our disgraces.

The people of England, Sir, while they have been instructed by you; while they, by you, have been enabled to penetrate into the *hidden recesses of the paper-money-fraud*; while they have, by you, been more expressly taught to know the foundation of their rights, and to overcome their adversaries in the field of argument; while they have, by you, been led to oppose the powers of reason to the brutal force employed against them; have, at the same time, imitated your frankness of proceeding; and we beg you to be assured, *that, even*

*now, after all that we have endured, we have no wish to change the constitution of our country, or any part of it*; that we have all along been sincere in our professions; that we desire only to obtain a reform in the Commons' House of Parliament, on the principle of that House being annually elected by the suffrages of every man whose property and whose person are subjected to its enactments; and this reform we are determined to obtain, or to die in our lawful endeavours to obtain it.

We have beheld, Sir, with indignation, the unprincipled attempts, made in your absence, to rob you of our attachment. With grateful acknowledgments for your patriotic exertions, we hail your return to the land of your birth, and, with best wishes for the health and prosperity of yourself and your family, we are, very respectfully and truly yours.

### ADDRESS

FROM THE

### REFORMERS OF PRESTON.

Preston, Nov. 23d, 1819.

Worthy Sir,

WE, the inhabitants of Preston, in the county of Lancaster, earnestly wish to congratulate you

on your safe arrival to your native country, and to assure you that we anticipate results the most favourable, by the magic of your matchless pen. We particularly thank you for your past services, and above all for the mortal stabs you have given the old Hag of Threadneedle-street. We sincerely believe that nothing could be of greater service in the cause of freedom than your exertions, and it gives infinite pleasure to know that you are not only able but willing to discomfit the \*\*\* \*\* and be the means (with God's assistance) of retrieving our unhappy country from the \*\*\*\*\* of the detestable \*\*\*\*\*. Hoping you will enjoy many happy years in your native country, we beg to subscribe ourselves yours most devotedly.

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Gentlemen, excellent people of Lancashire and of Preston! Here were the expectations which you expressed; here were your forebodings as to the result of this terrible system. In my answer to your addresses I promised you, most solemnly, that every exertion in my power should be made, to prove myself worthy of those high commendations which you bestowed upon me, and of that

affectionate regard with which you hailed my return to my native land; of my unalterable fidelity to which I had given so many and such signal proofs. In this answer I had to allude to the barbarous project which had then been broached by MALTHUS, and had been countenanced by several persons, even in the Parliament. This barbarous project proposed, that all relief was to be refused to the poor, let their sufferings be what they might, if they *dared to marry and have children*, after a certain period, than which nothing that ever entered into the heart of man was so unjust and so brutal. The injustice and brutality of the project were, however, not seen in their proper light, until we observed that, at the very same time, in that very same year, a hundred and ten thousand pounds were voted for the "*relief of the poor*" "*Clergy of the Church of Eng-*" "*land*"! Voted to these men, forming part of a body some of whom had more than thirty thousand pounds a-year each; voted out of taxes, raised upon the salt, soap, candles, tobacco, shoes, beer and other things, consumed by those very labouring classes, to whom, even in cases of the most severe distress, these projectors would have refused all relief.

Against this diabolical project, which, at one time, had gone so far as to appear under the form of a Bill, I have constantly raised my voice; and I verily believe that that voice has prevented its execution.

During the same answer, I pointed out to you, how great would be the advantage if I were placed in the House of Commons. My words were these: "You have seen, my good friends, what one man, though at a distance of three thousand miles, with a great ocean between you and him, has been able to do out of the House; and I trust in God you will see the day, when that man will show you what one man can do in the House."

Gentlemen, Electors of Preston, it is absolutely within your power now to put that man in that House. That man offers himself to you for that purpose, and he begs you, not for his own sake; but for the sake of his and your country; his and your children; and particularly for the sake of all the industrious classes of this most industrious, most ingenious, most virtuous, and once most free and happy nation; for the sake of all those he begs you, to give a hundred-fold power to him,

whose powers have always been exerted for you; to send him back by your voice and your authority to maintain, to enforce those principles, which you so unequivocally applauded in 1819; to which he has so constantly adhered from that day to this; and the soundness and justice of which, are now acknowledged by every man in the kingdom; an acknowledgment extorted from his foes, by those terrible events, which have shaken the kingdom to its very centre.

Gentlemen, numerous are the subjects upon which I have written; but, there is one topic, upon which I have been writing, with very short intervals of silence, during the whole course of my political life; and that topic is, the poverty and degradation of the Commons, or, common people, amongst whom I myself was born, and to endeavour to restore whom to their former state of happiness has been the GREAT LABOUR OF MY LIFE. I have many times said, and I repeat it again now, that if I were convinced that I never could accomplish any thing towards effecting this great object, dearly as I love my country, proud as I always have been of the name of Englishman, I would instantly

quit these shores, never to behold my native land again.

Gentlemen, how is this poverty and how is this degradation to be removed; and how is the Government to be preserved in King, Lords, and Commons, at the same time? To enter into details upon this subject, in this my first address to you, would lead me too far. Suffice it, for the present, to say, which I am sure you will not think presumptuous, that the man, who has foreseen all the terrible evils that now afflict the country; who has constantly warned the Government of these fatal consequences of its measures; who has proved, even to the acknowledgment of his enemies, that he understands so perfectly all the causes, remote as well as near of national prosperity and national misery; who, so likely as this man, to suggest and to enforce that which would be an effectual remedy. It is my intention, Gentlemen, to address you again, very shortly, and, perhaps, *in person*. It is my intention to be at Preston, in the course of a week or ten days; and, therefore, I shall trouble you no farther, at present. I cannot, however, conclude, without beseeching you to reflect, that it is far from being too presumptuous to suppose, that the fate of

millions **DEPENDS UPON THIS SINGLE ACT OF YOURS.** It is impossible to look at the situation of the country, without being convinced, that, by one means or another, some **GREAT CHANGE** must be speedily effected. The rocking of this system backward and forward; these terrible shocks which succeed each other, and each of which brings its fresh destruction of property, and its fresh masses of misery: these things must be put an end to, or, as Lord Grey observed the other night, in the House of Lords, some general and terrible convulsion must take place. To effect this great change by peaceable means, there must be Acts of Parliament; for such Acts of Parliament to be, there must be wisdom to devise, and courage to propose them. Long experience has taught you, as well as the rest of the country, that such propositions; propositions tending to secure the fortunes and possessions of the rich, without resorting to the odious and unjust exactions of Corn Bills; propositions tending to make acquired fortunes safe in the hands of the frugal, the ingenious and the industrious, by whom they have been acquired; and, above all things, propositions, the adop-



tion of which must necessarily lead to a just remuneration of the labour of the common people, and to their happy deliverance from the degradation of that *pauperism* of which their forefathers never heard even the sound; long experience has taught you, as well as the nation at large, that propositions of this kind, propositions absolutely necessary to pursue in this kingdom, any thing worthy of the name of property, and to restore the country to a state worthy of the name of peace, are to be expected from no man more confidently than from

Your affectionate friend, and

Most obedient servant,

WM. COBBETT.

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## MR. COBBETT'S SPEECH.

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*Preston, 16th May, 1826.*

ON Friday morning, Mr. COBBETT, accompanied by Sir THOMAS BEEVOR and Mr. JOHN COBBETT, set off from Kensington in a post-chaise, and reached Liverpool on Sunday, at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. On Monday morning, about 11 o'clock, they set off for Preston, accompanied by Mr. THOMAS SMITH, and

several other gentlemen, of Liverpool. They were met by considerable numbers of people, at about two miles from Preston, bearing two or three flags. The horses now went at a foot pace, the throng thickening as they advanced, till they arrived in the town, which is most beautifully situated on the banks of the Ribble. Great numbers of persons had come in from the country round about, so that the throng was beyond all description numerous, and was, withal, so orderly and good-humoured, as to make it quite delightful to behold. The party went to the Castle Inn, on one side of a spacious square which is the Market Place of Preston.

It should not be omitted that Mr. Cobbett was met upon the entrance into Preston, by some gentlemen bearing a flag, on which was painted a gridiron, with other emblems descriptive of the triumph of his doctrines; and having written upon it the substance of the Gridiron prophecy, and the date "LONG ISLAND." This was well calculated to produce in his breast feelings of no ordinary kind. This was, indeed, a day of triumph for him. The making of the flag was an act of which he and his

particular friends knew nothing : it was the work of an unknown volunteer : it spoke the sentiments of England upon the subject : it was an answer to all his calumniators ; and it seemed to say, "*your country has defended you at last.*" After taking about five minutes to rest, Mr. Cobbett went to the window, where he beheld assembled to hear him, by far the most numerous audience that he had ever beheld in his life. He was received in the manner that the reader will easily imagine : and, during the space of about an hour, he delivered a speech of which the following is the substance :—

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE not the power to return you suitable thanks for the very great honour that you have done me to-day. Beholding the assemblage that I now behold, I feel how inadequate any expressions of satisfaction on my part, and of applause bestowed upon you, would be when compared with my feelings of gratitude, and with your public spirit.

Gentlemen, I am here for the purpose of offering to you my services as a Member to represent you in the ensuing Parliament. It would be the height of pre-

sumption for me to make this tender of services in the old beaten, common-place way. It would be presumption inexcusable in me, and it would be the grossest of insults to you, for me to make this tender without stating to you the specific grounds upon which it is made, and without endeavouring to convince you, that by acting upon my request, you would be discharging a duty to yourselves and to your country. Were I addressing myself to the bribed and perjured wretches of Devonshire and Cornwall, I might, without presumption, deal in the common-place, indistinct, equivocal, loud and swaggering talk about your rights and liberties generally, and thus tread in the steps of every hypocritical and insincere knave that has thus been chousing the people for the last two or three hundred years, and availing himself of their credulity, in order to be enabled to share in the robbery and plunder committed upon them.

Far other than this becomes the man who appeals to any portion of the sensible and public-spirited people of this celebrated county. It becomes such a man, and, therefore, it becomes me in this particular case, to talk of something *specific* ; to tell you of

that which I propose to do, or endeavour to do; of something that I will perform, or use the utmost of my endeavours to perform; of something which it will be next to impossible for you to forget; in short, of something which, in the result, shall cause you to remember me with applause, or shall cause me to forfeit your esteem for ever.

Gentlemen, before, however, I come to this part of my subject; before I tell you what I will do or endeavour to do for us all; before I speak to you of my intended efforts to effect some great change in the condition of the country, I beg you to permit me to state the reasons which suggest themselves to my mind in support of the necessity of that great change; and what reason can be more cogent than the sufferings now experienced in every part of the kingdom, and particularly in this part of it, where suffering never ought to be known, if we consider the character and the conduct of its people. Permit me, then, to give you my view of the real cause of this suffering.

The Scripture says, "*He that will not work neither shall he eat.*" It also says that the drunkard, the glutton, the profligate, and the sluggard, shall be sunken into

poverty and covered with rags. But we live in a state of things where we see the most ingenious, the most industrious, the most intelligent, the most enterprising and vigilant, and, as I verily believe, the most virtuous of mankind, plunged into ruin, degradation, and want approaching to starvation; and that too without a single error that any human being can trace to themselves. What, Gentlemen, can I hear of these immense establishments shut up or giving only half employ; can I hear of this without inquiring into the cause? When such is the case, as it notoriously is, must there not be some extraordinary cause for it? and, before we talk of a remedy; and especially before I attempt to trouble you with an account of that which I would endeavour to effect as a remedy, does it not become me to request you to honour me with attention while I endeavour to describe to you the source and the progress of this desolating cause?

Gentlemen, Lord Liverpool, the Prime Minister of England, (and a *prime* cock he is, in a late discussion in the House of Lords; imputed the whole of the sufferings of the people in the manufacturing districts, to the *misconduct of the master manufacturers*

*themselves*. He said, or at least the newspapers tell us that he said; that the *sole* cause of the present distress; he repeatedly said that the *sole* cause was, that of over-trading on the part of the great manufacturers and merchants; that is to say, an over-eagerness to get money on their part; and that this it was that had plunged so large a part of this great body of industrious and ingenious people into beggary and want! Gentlemen, not a man out of the many thousands that now do me the honour to listen to me with so much attention; there is not one man of you, who does not well remember that one of the charges against us who have opposed this ruinous system was, that we endeavoured to excite sentiments of hatred in the poor against the rich, and particularly that we endeavoured to excite those sentiments in the *employed* against the *employer*. This charge, like all the other charges against us, was false and foul. Here, however, we have a very tangible effort for doing that which might justify such a charge. I will act more fairly with his Lordship, for I will impute no such motive to him; charity bids me ascribe it to a want of sufficient knowledge on this great subject; and thus I

leave him, while I beg permission to trespass on your time by submitting to you my views with regard to the cause of all this ruin and this suffering.

The cause is, *the acts of the Government and the Parliament*. The Government became in 1810, no matter from what motive, convinced of the necessity of restoring a gold and silver currency to the country. They were told by me that this would produce dreadful ruin, unless they greatly reduced the taxes at the same time. They persevered in their measure in contempt of my warning. They persevered in the enormous taxation; they spread ruin, first over the merchants, next over manufacturers; but, when the dreadful ruin came to the land they gave way; they returned again to the paper-money in 1822, they caused prices to rise to an enormous height, they encouraged and induced merchants and manufacturers to increase their imaginary capital by the giving of Bills to an amazing amount; they induced men, and men of the soundest judgment, too, men having the merit of the greatest enterprise, to augment establishments already existing, and to bring others into existence which had no existence before. From the early part of

1823, the Ministers began to boast of this prodigious prosperity ; all their measures, foreign as well as domestic, invited every description of persons engaged in trade as well as in agriculture, to calculate, nay, to rely upon, a continual increase of trade, a continual *augmentation of consumption and rise of price*. I pray you, Gentlemen, to mark this conduct of the Ministers ; of those Ministers, those very men who now impute all your calamities to *over-trading* ; that is to say, to the folly or the avarice of the great manufacturers.

Gentlemen, all the language of the Ministers, every speech that came from them upon the subject, every speech that they have put into the mouth of His Majesty himself ; the tendency of all these speeches, was, to induce the proprietors of factories to purchase the raw material at any price, to augment their establishments to the utmost, to borrow, to anticipate, and, by all sorts of means, to do those things which a reliance upon high prices for their goods ought to induce them to do. Having done this, they see their bubble burst ; they, in their fright, add to the losses occasioned by the bursting ; and now that they behold the dreadful ruin that they

have occasioned, they turn round upon those whom they have induced thus to extend their establishments and their expenditure, and they accuse them of having been the cause of the calamity.

To narrow my illustration to a single point, and that point one so familiar to you, let me observe, that, amongst the raw materials which great manufacturers were thus, by the delusions of the Ministers, induced to purchase at any price, was that pretty little article called *Cotton*. In consequence of the prodigious issues of paper-money ; in consequence of the bold and repeated promises of *permanent prosperity* ; in consequence of these and of magnificent prospects held forth to the purchasers, cotton rose to twenty or twenty-two pence per pound, and the ships of the whole world seemed to be too small to bring enough of it to our shores. The Ministerial bubble bursts, their delusion vanishes like the phantoms of a dream ; this immense stock of the raw material falls in an instant from *twenty or twenty-two pence to seven pence a pound* ; the establishments for converting it into goods fall in value in the same proportion ; the ability to give employment and to pay wages, diminish in a like degree ; the em-

ployer is ruined; his fortune is gone; and the workman, to whom he cannot pay a third part of what he paid before, and whose every necessary of life remains taxed just as it was taxed before, is, of necessity, deprived of the means of comfortable existence, in spite of all his ingenuity, all his matchless industry, and all the sobriety and frugality that it is possible for a human being to practise.

Here, then, Gentlemen, is the real cause of the present distress. If, indeed, my warnings had been attended to, these consequences would not have taken place. But, when I consider the weight which the voice of a government naturally must have when compared with that of an individual, far be it from me to censure those that rejected my advice. Look, however, at the fate of these victims of delusion. Look at the hundreds and thousands of families, who, but a few months ago, justly regarded themselves as blessed with opulence, now, all of a sudden, stripped of the far greater part of their means, thousands of them compelled to sink at once from their former rank in life; the whole of them haunted by the most fearful forebodings, and not a few actually reduced to bankruptcy and beggary; and all this

arising, as I have clearly shown, from those delusions which grew out of the conduct of the Government, and against which no degree of industry, no human foresight, no human prudence, could be armed; the best of husbands, of fathers, those who rose early, closed their eyes late, and ate the bread of carefulness, practised their virtues in vain; and, pray mark, that, in direct proportion to their enterprise; in direct proportion to their laudable anxiety to provide for their families; in direct proportion to this most amiable desire they have been punished; while they have been made the instruments in efforts which have at last, produced that most unnatural state of things, that is to say, *suffering from hunger in the midst of abundance!*

Gentlemen, permit me to endeavour to direct your attention to one particular instance of the manner in which those who live upon the taxes have gained by the loss of the Manufacturers. Upon the raw material of cotton, there is a tax upon importation of six per cent. *ad valorem*; that is to say, 6*l.* of tax upon every 100*l.* worth of cotton. Those, therefore, who were encouraged by the Government, as we have seen, to purchase the cotton, have paid

this six per cent. duty upon it. This cotton has now fallen to a third part of the price at which it was purchased; that is to say, it has fallen so, that that which was bought at a hundred pounds is now worth only about *thirty-three pounds* or thereabouts; and, observe, the master-manufacturer, who has paid for the cotton, has, in reality, paid *six pounds' tax upon every thirty-three pounds of cotton!* Now then mark, the Government having got this tax safely in its pocket, turns round short upon those who have paid the duties, and tells them that they have been *over-trading*, and that they have thus, by over-trading, ruined themselves and starved their work-people. It does not talk, however, of *giving back*, as it ought to do, two thirds of the duty which the manufacturers have paid upon the cotton. It does not talk of that. It holds fast the money which it has gotten from the defunct manufacturers, and reproaches them with having been the cause of the ruin.

This is all now so plain, I trust, that further remark upon it would be unnecessary: but, very closely connected with this matter is an advertisement in a newspaper which I have in my pocket, respecting cheap silks to be sold by

a subscription society, the silks being made by the Spitalfield weavers. These weavers being in a state of great distress, a subscription by the Lord Mayor of London, by the people of White-Hall, by fundholders, loan-jobbers and stock-jobbers, has been made for the relief of those poor weavers, who are situated rather inconveniently near to the parties subscribing. These poor weavers are paid for their work partly out of this subscription. The silks which they weave are offered by the advertisement in question at "*less than half they cost making.*" They are offered in immense quantities at Shear's and Co. No. 120, Regent-Street, London. Now, then, Gentlemen, look at the situation of the silk-manufacturer of Macclesfield. Look at his situation. He must sell his silks for less than half of the cost of making them, or he must not sell them at all; and pray bear in mind, that, in addition to the cost of his raw silk, in addition to the loss upon his capital, the Government has already got in its pocket *the tax which this manufacturer has paid upon his raw silk!* Gentlemen, any thing so monstrously unjust as this the world never heard before. Is this the way to promote harmony in a

country, to ensure its *Prosperity* and *Peace*!

It is very well worthy of remark, that the same charges brought against the cotton manufacturers by LORD LIVERPOOL, were brought against the manufacturers of Macclesfield by Mr. HUSKISSON. He accused them of "*over-trading*"; of "*speculation*"; of indiscretion in augmenting their establishments and their stock; he accused them, in short, of having produced the ruin of themselves and the starvation of their work-people by their *too eager haste to grow rich*; and I pray you to remember that, at the very time that he was doing this, and while he himself confessed that the country was plunged into distress, he was himself making application to have *five thousand pounds sterling a year added to his own salary*, as a reward for his great services as a Minister of trade! If silks are to be sold thus, for less than half what the mere making of them costs, what is to be the fate of cotton goods? Here we have a criterion of that which the cotton-factors have to expect; and, indeed, every thing shows, that, without some great and efficient change in the affairs of the country, ruin must visit every class

alternately, till the country be one general scene of beggary.

Gentlemen, let us now turn to the *land*. This ruinous system goes from class to class; having demolished one, it passes on to another. Your ruin leading, at last, to a want of food, compels you to look at the price of the loaf, and that price directs you to look at the Corn Bill. Upon this point, the Ministers have now given way, and in great haste, though in the teeth of the pledges so recently made to the landlords. What they have done is, as far as it goes, right in itself, though at the same time, in its consequences an act of monstrous injustice. For ten long years you have been putting up prayers against this Corn Bill. The prayers were wholly unavailing. Only a few weeks ago, a very few weeks, the Ministers still turned a deaf ear to those long-continued prayers. All at once they have yielded. What it is that has made them yield I must leave you to guess. The cause lies far too deep for my powers of penetration; but the thing is done; something, at any rate, has been done; and, though the thing itself is right, it will be most ruinous to a very numerous class. There are, perhaps, more than twenty thousand Farmers



who have taken new leases or renewed old ones at Lady-day last. They have done this relying upon the pledge of the Ministers not to meddle with the Corn Bill this year; and all these twenty thousand contracts have been, in reality, violated by the measures which have now taken place relative to Corn. In coming from London to this place, we saw, perhaps, a hundred and fifty wheat-ricks by the road-side. Now, supposing these wheat-ricks to have been worth a hundred pounds each before the recent measures were adopted; they have now lost a tenth part of their value to the farmer, and that, too, in the twinkling of an eye, by the act of the Government. They say that the pick-pockets in London have a sort of a hook with a spring to it, by the means of which they can pick your pocket while you are on the other side of the way, seeing them and thinking them very honest gentlemen. By a slight-of-hand quite equal to this, the present system goes on emptying the pockets of the community, class after class.

But, observe, that though the present measures respecting Corn, will certainly have a tendency to make bread cheaper than it otherwise would be, I beg you to bear

in mind that even the bonded corn is not to come out without a duty of twelve shillings per quarter paid by the importer of that corn. Here we have the amount of the *tax which we pay on our bread*. If you ascertain the quantity of bread that is made by a quarter of wheat, you will find that a tax of twelve shillings a quarter upon the wheat makes an addition of one penny to the price of every four-pound loaf; this is the tax, then, which we pay upon our bread; and at the same time that we are loaded with this tax, we pay all the other enormous taxes upon our beer, our sugar, our candles, soap, tea, leather, and every necessary of life.—When a chest of tea is sold by auction at the India House, whatever the purchaser gives for it, he has, in addition, the same sum to give to the Government before he can take the tea away. So that, when a poor man lays out sixpence in tea, he gives one half of the sixpence to the Government. On his beer, he gives, out of every sixpence, full fourpence halfpenny in tax on malt, tax on beer, tax on retailer's license, and on the expenses which the imposition of these taxes occasion.

The tax which we are to pay on the bread, for instance, must

be paid, or the landlords can have no rents. This is the pinching point of the matter. The landlords talk about *remunerating prices to the grower*. They talk about all manner of things but the real thing. They never say that they want *rents for themselves*. It is very right that they should have rents. It is as right that a gentleman should be paid for his estates as that you should be paid for your labour, and as that the great Cotton Manufacturer should be paid for the use of his capital. But, they cannot have rents with low prices, unless the taxes be reduced one half in amount. Why, then, say you, do they not choose this mode of obtaining rents? — Why do they not choose rents with cheap corn? As our prices are low, why do they not take off the taxes, and thus enable the farmers to pay rents with low-priced corn? If you put these questions to them, they will be very reluctant to give you the plain and honest answer. They are landlords; but, they are something else beside landlords. They are, or their relations are, place-men, pensioners, sinecure-holders, grantees, and, in short, great receivers of the taxes. They and their relations are the Admirals, the innumerable Generals, the

Colonels of Regiments, the late Ambassadors, in great numbers, now pensioned; to their families belong the innumerable women and children who are on the pension list. We have, I believe, almost one Admiral to every ship of the line that is fit for service. I think that we have more than one General to every Regiment. So that, as these belong, for the far greater part, to the families of landlords; and as they want to have these posts which are paid out of the taxes, and to have *rents for their estates, too*, they want corn to be at a high price, in order that their farmers may pay them rents, and that the taxes may all be paid at the same time.

Gentlemen, let us take an illustration. The landlords know well, that there can be no effectual reduction of taxation; that your loaf and your pot of beer must be much about the same price that they are now at; that you must still pay a tax to half the amount of your tea; that, in short, there can be no effectual remedy, unless there be a material reduction of the *interest of the debt*. The landlords know this well; but they also know that they cannot propose this reduction, unless they first take away their own sinecures, and a very large part of all

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that they receive, as I have before stated, out of the taxes. To take away a part of the interest of the fundholders without taking away the sinecures and the like, would be a thing so monstrous, that it must lead to some dreadful convulsion. Seeing this, and wishing to keep their emoluments which they derive from the taxes, they are for keeping on all the taxes and for getting a high price for their corn in order that they may get rents at the same time.

Gentlemen, the illustration to which I have just alluded, I will now give you. The Earl of Malmesbury made, the other night, a motion for inquiry previous to any change in the Corn Laws. His Lordship said not a word about the taking off of taxes. He talked about the ruin which would fall upon the landed interest; this ruin would at once be prevented by a taking off the taxes; but his Lordship has a sinecure place, called a *patent* place, Governor of Carisbroke Castle in the Isle of Wight, which gives him one thousand three hundred and seventy-nine pounds sterling a year, which sum is paid him out of the taxes. Agreeably to a report laid before the House of Commons in 1808, this place is stated to be given him for life. He had had it many

years, I believe, before 1808; and, according to his Report, he is to have it for his life-time. If, therefore, we were to say to him, Take off the taxes; he might tell us that this could not be done without largely reducing the interest of the debt. If we were to tell him, Reduce the debt then; he might answer, We cannot do that without taking away my patent place!

Gentlemen, I am imputing no bad motives to his Lordship. Such an answer would be natural: it is such an answer as most men would give. We come, therefore, at last to this; that a great change in the management of the affairs of the nation is absolutely necessary. There wants the performance of this great duty in Parliament. To cause the change to be produced, it must first be proposed to the Parliament; to cause it to be proposed, there must be some man placed there, possessing experience and knowledge suited to the task, courage to encounter that task, perseverance to enable him to go through it, and he must have a considerable portion of the country at his back to give him confidence and to uphold him in the struggle for the people. Such is the man that is needed; such are my objects in making this appeal to you; I feel confi-

dent that, by your votes, I shall be selected for the purpose, and the security that you have for my doing the best to effect this great object is, that the whole of my political life, has, in spite of every obstacle, been devoted to the inculcating of those principles which I now have so fair a prospect of seeing triumph completely through your means.

Not to occupy any more of your time at present, Gentlemen, I will now conclude with repeating, that it is impossible for me to express the satisfaction which your conduct has given me this day, and with informing you, that, it being absolutely necessary that I should be in London at the close of this week, it will be absolutely impossible for me to visit each of you at your own homes, as it would have been my wish to do, if I could possibly have staid. Besides, Gentlemen, of what avail could this be? The greater part of you now do me the honour to stand before me. I here solicit you all, without distinction, to give me the power to serve my country in general, and particularly to serve you. I could say no more to you, individually, than I thus publicly say. If possible, I will visit you all personally before the election; and I shall remain satisfied that,

when public principle is put in competition with a visit at your doors, not one man will value the latter as a feather. Our excellent friend, Sir THOMAS BEEVOR, will address you here to-morrow evening about this time. I shall again have that honour, if you will permit me; and now, with the sincerest and most affectionate feelings, I say, God bless you all, and good night.

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After Mr. Cobbett's speech, Sir THOMAS BEEVOR shortly addressed the people, and told them that he should have an opportunity, the next evening, of fully stating to them the reasons which has induced him to step forward in order to promote the Election of Mr. COBBETT.

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FROM THE MORNING HERALD.

*Manchester, Tuesday Evening.*

The cotton market to-day is said to be as dull, flat, and unprofitable as it has been for some time past. A hand-loom manufacturer informs me, that he has been bid for some calico just within a shilling per piece of what it cost him—that is, he has been offered about the price of the material

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alone. The woollen trade is reported as being rather improving in demand, but the price still continues as low as ever.

In the neighbourhood of Stansfield and Todmorden, villages situated amongst the moors and mountains, and on the borders of Lancashire and Yorkshire, the weavers are represented as being in the most miserable condition. These remote districts, having no local press to make known their situation, have excited less sympathy, and consequently, have received less assistance than some other places, whose condition, though bad, has not been so bad as theirs.

The London Committee has sent down 150*l.* to be distributed amongst the distressed manufacturers of Todmorden, Walsend, Stansfield, and Langfield; but this money happening to fall into the hands of persons belonging to the two former townships, they have refused to give any part of it to the two latter—at least such is the report. The sum, however, is certainly a very inadequate one for the relief of four of the most distressed townships in the counties of York and Lancaster. They have also received 100*l.* from the Liverpool subscription; but their situation is, nevertheless, very

deplorable, and such as ought to engage the serious and immediate attention of the London Committee. To add to the miserable condition of the poor hand-loom weavers, the principal manufacturers appear to be quarrelling amongst themselves respecting the terms on which they shall give out employment. Several of them have agreed to pay their weavers 15*d.* a piece (about 30 yards) for weaving calico, providing the parishes to which the weavers belong will give 3*d.* a piece more, and thus make it 1*s.* 6*d.* a piece. This seems a strange course of proceeding, and, as it appears to me, likely to answer no good purpose whatever.

Hitherto, it has been productive of nothing but evil, for some of the townships having refused to adopt the plan, the manufacturers in other townships have determined to give no employment to the weavers who do not belong to their own parish. Thus Messrs. Fielding and Brothers are turning off all the weavers who do not belong to their townships; and another great house, Ingram and Hollinrake, are doing the same with those weavers who do not belong to their parish. There are those, indeed, who say it is only a ruse, adopted for the purpose of getting

rid of the hand-loom weavers, in order to bring into work the power-looms. At any rate, I am told it is certain, that Messrs. Fielding and Brothers are making preparations for bringing into operation about 1500 power-looms, part of which were, during the late disturbances, sent away by the canal, but which have lately been brought back to the factory of these gentlemen. Such is the state of things, and one cannot imagine a more lamentable one, in these remote and mountainous districts, as Mr. Peel very properly calls them.

In the course of a ride which I have made through these districts, I was pleased to observe, that though the men and women had generally a most emaciated and famine-like appearance, yet their children, for the most part, looked clean and healthy. On inquiry, I found that many of them, for days together, had actually refused to taste food, in order that their children might not want; preferring—and what affectionate parent would not?—the bitter pangs of hunger, to the cries of a starving offspring. Would to Heaven that those who never knew any other wants, but what arise from pampered and perverted appetites, would place themselves, even in imagination, in the condi-

tion of these poor creatures, and by thus learning what it is to suffer, properly estimate the imperious duty of administering relief.

This being the race week at Manchester, every thing externally has the appearance of holiday-making and joy. The streets are at this moment filled with persons hastening to the race ground, which I am told will, this evening, be crowded with perhaps a hundred thousand people. The proprietors of shows, however, have generally refrained from visiting Manchester races this spring, on account of the distress which prevails; for, compared with other years, there are scarcely any exhibitions of the kind to be seen.

It is, perhaps, worth remarking, that the poor-rates of this town, notwithstanding the miserable condition of the labouring classes, are considerably less than they were in 1817, and in other periods of depression in trade. It should be observed, however, that those who receive assistance from the subscription are not relieved by the parish, and *vice versa*. There has been a great influx of Irish weavers, who, having no settlement, are not entitled to parish relief, though, in cases of extreme

distress, it is not customary to refuse it.

Mr. Cobbett, who, in an address, which was placarded about Preston last week, intimated his intention of becoming a Candidate for that borough, entered the town yesterday afternoon, and addressed a considerable number of the inhabitants on Penwortham-green. His friends say, that the parish-officers have lately gone round to the abodes of the distressed weavers, for the purpose of inducing them to accept parish relief, and thus disqualified them from voting at the forthcoming election; and, that they have succeeded to a great extent. Every resident of Preston, of every description, householder or not householder, who has not received parish pay within one year, and who is not a Catholic, is entitled to vote at the elections for Members of Parliament for that borough. With the preceding exceptions, therefore universal suffrage prevails at Preston; but it is, nevertheless, a close borough. The Catholics, however, are very numerous.

FROM THE MORNING HERALD.

*Marlborough Street.*

On Saturday Sir Mark Wood, Bart., a Magistrate for the county of Surrey, appeared before H. M. Dyer, Esq. the sitting Magistrate, to answer to the complaint of Mrs. Ann Paget, for an assault.

The hearing of the case was originally appointed for Wednesday, and Westcott, the officer to whom the warrant was given, was desired to wait upon Sir Mark Wood, for him to appoint an hour which would be the most convenient for him to attend the Magistrate. In accordance, Westcott waited on Sir Mark Wood, who treated the message with contempt. At length Westcott so wrought upon Sir Mark Wood, that he promised to attend at 12 o'clock on Wednesday; but instead of so doing, he sent his butler, who stated to the worthy Magistrate, that Sir Mark had that morning left town; which

occasioned some remarks from Mr. Dyer, when it was finally arranged that the case should stand over till Saturday. About 12 o'clock, on Saturday, Sir Mark Wood entered the office, when, taking a seat on the bench, Mr. Dyer stated that he felt surprised that he (Sir Mark) had not attended to his request upon the Wednesday, especially when he had adopted the mildest course which could be pursued, for it was invariably the desire of the Magistrates of the office, that whenever a warrant was issued against a respectable person, for the officer who held the warrant to wait upon the person and request him to attend; and although this desire had been complied with, and the utmost delicacy used, yet he had treated with the utmost contempt his wishes upon the subject.

Sir Mark Wood here interrupted the worthy Magistrate by observing, that he *as a Magistrate had no right to attend to a summons, and he should therefore expect him (Mr. Dyer) to consider*

*that his now attending was more a matter of favour than any thing else.*

Mr. Dyer—I am surprised, Sir Mark, at your observations.

Mrs. Paget deposed, that in the beginning of the week she waited on Sir Mark Wood, in consequence of her son being a drawing-master who was engaged in a school in which two of Sir Mark Wood's sons were placed. The master of the school, Mr. Lambert, was now under arrest, and was indebted to her son in a considerable sum of money, and upon requesting Mr. Lambert to pay him, he stated that 'Sir Mark Wood was indebted to him.' In consequence of this, she waited on Sir Mark Wood to request him to pay her son, and so let it be a set-off between him and Mr. Lambert; when upon her entering the house he told her to leave it, and repeatedly called her a \* \* He then opened the door, and pushed her, and then desired his servant to push that \* \* \* out of his house.



Mr. *Dyer*—Have you any witness to the assault?

Mrs. Paget—No, Sir.

Mr. *Dyer*—Then it must rest entirely upon your own statement. What do you say to the assault, Sir Mark?

Sir M. Wood—I know nothing about it.

Mr. Richardson, who accompanied Sir Mark Wood, observed, that he regularly paid Mr. Lambert these last seventeen years.

Mr. *Dyer*—First of all, I will hear what Sir Mark Wood says to the charge; for he is aware of it, as his butler owned to it here on Wednesday last.

M Richardson—She had no claim upon Sir Mark Wood.

Mr. *Dyer*—Strictly speaking, she had no right to go and ask for the money; but when she went to ask for it as a favour, Sir Mark had no right to assault her; and if he wished to get her out of the house, he ought to have employed gentler means, instead of going to extremities, and proceeding to actual violence.

Sir Mark Wood here made an observation which was inaudible.

Mr. *Dyer*—Am I to understand you do not intend to say any

thing in reply? Really, Sir Mark does not seem to have that idea of the business on which he is here as he ought to have, and which I certainly expected he would have, by his *holding the rank of Baronet, and being himself a Magistrate for Surrey.*

Sir Mark Wood—*And I am also a Deputy-Lieutenant, Mr. Dyer.*

Mr. *Dyer*—Then, Sir, from your being placed in these situations, I should have expected a different line of conduct.

Sir Mark Wood—What is the evidence which has been stated against me?

Mr. *Dyer*—If you did not hear it, I will repeat what the complainant stated; which the worthy Magistrate did, when towards the conclusion, Sir Mark Wood interrupted Mr. *Dyer* by saying, "Trash!"

Mr. *Dyer*—I am telling you what she stated; that is all I know of the transaction.

Sir Mark Wood—That is \* \* lie, Sir.

Mr. *Dyer*—I shall fine you for that, Sir.

Sir Mark Wood—What do you mean by making such an observation?

**Mr. Dyer**—Desire **Mr. Fitzpatrick** to bring in the penalty book; which being done, the worthy Magistrate desired him to enter **Sir Mark Wood**, fined 5*s.* for swearing.

The butler was then called, who deposed, that he opened the door to **Mrs. Paget**, when **Sir Mark** opened the dining-room door, and desired her to go away about her business; and he gently placed his hand upon her shoulder—but he did not hear **Sir Mark** use violent language; thinks he must if he had done so.

**Mrs. Paget**—You heard him swear in the hall.

**Butler**—I did, but thought it was at me.

**Mr. Dyer**—I must request **Sir Mark Wood** to put in bail for the assault, and leave the question to a Jury, who will accordingly decide to the best of their knowledge.

**Sir Mark Wood**—What do you want?

**Mr. Dyer**—I shall request you to find bail, yourself in 40*l.* and two housekeepers in 30*l.* each.

**Mr. Fitzpatrick**—The first thing is the payment of the fine.

**Sir Mark Wood**, addressing **Mr. Dyer**. Is that fine levied by you?

**Mr. Dyer**—Yes, Sir.

**Sir Mark Wood**—Make your order then, and I think I can take a good many 5*s.* out of your pocket.

**Mr. Fitzpatrick**—The order is made, Sir, and you must pay 5*s.* or else be committed ten days to the House of Correction.

**Sir Mark Wood**—I, as a magistrate, have no right to be committed for swearing.

**Mr. Dyer**—When, Sir, you forget yourself, you are as amenable as any other person.

**Sir Mark Wood**—I do not think you have a right.

**Mr. Dyer**—As a Magistrate you must be aware I have a right.

**Sir Mark Wood**—Well, do as you like. He then paid the penalty of 5*s.*

**Mr. Dyer**—Have you bail here? When it was intimated there was but one at present—

**Mr. Roe**—**Sir Mark** had better go and wait in the next room. Accordingly **Sir Mark** got up from the Bench, and in going along the passage he turned round, and exclaimed—"I will remember you as long as I live;" and upon reaching the door, he again turned round and said—"If I had you here, \* \* \* If I would not —"

(the closing of the sentence was lost by the Baronet walking into the parlour.) In about half an hour his bail came to the office, when to prevent Sir M. Wood from having any additional trouble, the worthy Magistrate desired Mr. Fitzpatrick to come into the office to take the bail, and in accordance to the usual custom, Sir Mark Wood was asked where he resided? In Pall-mall, replied Sir Mark.

Mr. Fitzpatrick—But I must know what number.

Sir Mark Wood—Number! What do you want to know that for? I live next door to Prince Léopold; perhaps that will suit you better. Now you know all about it.

One of the bail stated himself to be a rope-maker, residing in the Kent-road; the other a grocer and cheesemonger, residing in Pall-mall. When Mr. Fitzpatrick handed to Sir Mark Wood a notice when the Sessions would commence, he read it, and, addressing Mr. Richardson, said, "Who the D—l expected to be brought here upon such a d—d charge as this!"

Mr. Dyer—Really, Sir Mark, you must restrain yourself in your language here, for it is past bear-

ing, and I cannot permit it; therefore let me beg of you to be quiet.

Sir Mark Wood—I wish, Sir, that you would leave off making your d—d impertinent observations to me.

Mr. Dyer—I will fine you again, Sir Mark, for the expression "d—d impertinent." Mr. Fitzpatrick, record again Sir Mark Wood fined 5s. for swearing.

Sir Mark Wood—I will have you well flogged for this.

Mr. Dyer—If you do not know how to behave yourself, Sir, I will teach you; therefore, take off your hat.

Sir Mark Wood—I will not take it off.

Mr. Dyer—Then take it off for him.

Sir Mark Wood, advancing towards Mr. Dyer.—If you do order it to be taken off, I will \* \* \*, when Mr. Plank forcibly took off the hat.

Mr. Dyer—I will fine you again for that, and I will for every oath, if I were to sit here till night, that you utter.

Sir Mark Wood—I will be d—d if I do not \* \* \*

Mr. Dyer—Sir George, I must beg of you to interpose; for Sir

Mark uses again such language to me I shall expect him to find bail for the threats which he uses, for it is impossible that I can sit here, and put up with such gross conduct as that of Sir Mark's.

Sir *George Farrant* observed to Sir Mark, that his behaviour was out of all order, unbecoming of a gentleman and a Magistrate; and if in case he should persevere

in it, he certainly should hold him to bail for such disgraceful conduct.

These observations of Sir *George Farrant* appeared to have the desired effect, which being coupled with his friends forcing him out of the office, prevented any further reply. One of the bail then paid the 10s. for the additional oaths.

## MARKETS.

**Average Prices of CORN through-  
out ENGLAND, for the week end-  
ing May 6.**

<i>Per Quarter.</i>					
<i>s. d.</i>			<i>s. d.</i>		
Wheat ..	60	5	Rye ....	35	0
Barley ..	30	1	Beans ...	38	5
Oats ....	24	2	Pease ...	37	9

**Total Quantity of Corn returned as  
Sold in the Maritime Districts, for  
the Week ended May 6.**

<i>Qrs.</i>			<i>Qrs.</i>		
Wheat ..	44,054		Rye ....	374	
Barley ..	13,437		Beans ...	3,569	
Oats ...	29,126		Pease ...	624	

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

**Quantities and Prices of British  
Corn, &c. sold and delivered in  
this Market, during the week ended  
Saturday, May 6.**

<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wheat.. 6,522 for 20,831	8	3	Average, 63 10
Barley.. 2,734 ..	4,116	13	9.....30 1
Oats.. 12,022 ..	15,398	17	10.....25 7
Rye.... 43 ..	70	0	10.....32 6
Beans.. 1,106 ....	2,149	18	11.....38 10
Pease .. 301 ....	597	4	6.....39 8

**Friday, May 12.—The arrivals of  
this week are unusually small. There  
has been an improved demand for  
Wheat, since Monday, and the best  
parcels are rather dearer. Barley also  
obtains rather more money. Beans**

**and Pease are unaltered. Oats find  
a ready sale at 1s. per quarter ad-  
vance on the terms of Monday.**

**Monday, May 15.—The arrivals of  
all descriptions of Corn last week were  
unusually small, but a considerable  
quantity of Flour was reported. This  
morning the fresh supply consists  
chiefly of a good many samples of  
Wheat from Kent, with very little  
Grain of any kind from other coun-  
ties adjacent, and several vessels  
from the North with Oats. The cer-  
tainty of Ministers carrying their se-  
cond measure has placed the Wheat  
trade in a very different state to what  
it was on Wednesday last, so that the  
advance of that day has not been  
realized this morning; prices may,  
therefore, be quoted the same as last  
Monday, with a dull trade.**

**Barley is advanced 1s. to 2s. per  
quarter. Beans are also 1s. per quar-  
ter higher. Pease of both kinds are  
rather dearer. Oats find buyers more  
readily than last Monday, at an ad-  
vance of 1s. to 2s. per quarter, but  
no great clearance has been made on  
these terms. The Flour Trade is  
very dull, at last quotations.**

**Price of Bread.—The price of the  
4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the  
full-priced Bakers.**

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack .....	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	42s. — 46s.
— North Country ..	40s. — 43s.

Monday, May 15.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 514 bales of Bacon, and from Foreign Ports 6,413 casks of Butter.

### HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, May 15.—The late severe frosts have much injured the Hop Bines, and the flea is generally increasing: should a change to warm weather take place, flies will soon appear. At present, they look much worse than they did at this time in 1823, or 1825. Prices have advanced 10s. to 20s. per cwt.

Maidstone, May 11.—The continuance of the cold winds, with the frosty nights, is far from favourable to the Hop Bines, and we learn from many parts, but more particularly from the Weald of Kent, very great complaints: there is a great deal of flea, and they come very uneven. The trade appears getting better every week.

City, 17th May, 1826.

### BACON.

The Bacon market has been stationary for some time, until the last week, during which an advance has taken place. On board, 52s.; Land- ed, 56s..

### BUTTER.

Notwithstanding the long continuance of cold weather, this article

has remained in a very depressed state, the supplies of *fresh-made* Butter being fully equal to the demand. The *wind-up* will prove ruinous to many. Best Dutch, 74s. to 76s. Hardly any thing else saleable.

### CHEESE.

No prices can be quoted for this article.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 15.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	8	to	4 10
Mutton ...	4	0	—	4 8
Veal .....	5	0	—	6 0
Pork .....	4	6	—	5 6
Lamb .....	5	4	—	6 0

Beasts ...	2,260	Sheep ..	18,140
Calves ...	152	Pigs ...	150

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	0	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	8	—	4 6
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	4	0	—	6 0
Lamb .....	4	0	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	8	—	4 4
Veal .....	3	4	—	5 4
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	8	—	6 4

COAL MARKET, May 12.

*Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.*  
9½ Newcastle.. 7½ 27s. 6d. to 37s.

## POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£3 10 to 5 10
Middlings.....	3 0 — 0 0
Chats.....	2 10 — 0 0
Common Red..	0 0 — 0 0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.

BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£4 0 to 6 0
Middlings.....	3 0 — 3 10
Chats.....	2 0 — 2 5
Common Red..	3 10 — 5 10

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay.... 60s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 40s.

Clover.. 70s. to 100s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 63s. to 100s.

Straw .. 31s. to 42s.

Clover .. 90s. to 105s.

Whitechapel.—Hay.... 66s. to 90s.

Straw... 36s. to 42s.

Clover.. 84s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s.	s. to s. d.	s.	s. to s. d.	s.	s. to s. d.	s.	s. to s. d.	s.	s. to s. d.
Aylesbury .....	52	62 0	34	36 0	27	30 0	43	44 0	0	0 0
Banbury .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke .....	52	61 0	20	29 0	25	26 0	45	50 0	0	0 0
Bridport .....	58	62 0	32	34 0	22	24 0	46	52 0	0	0 0
Chelmsford.....	52	68 0	29	32 0	25	30 0	32	35 0	36	38 0
Derby .....	58	62 0	27	31 0	24	28 0	40	45 0	0	0 0
Devizes .....	46	58 0	27	32 0	24	32 0	46	52 0	0	0 0
Dorchester .....	52	62 0	26	30 0	22	26 0	45	50 0	0	0 0
Exeter .....	60	64 0	36	38 0	22	25 0	28	32 0	0	0 0
Eye .....	54	60 0	30	32 0	22	26 0	34	36 0	32	34 0
Guildford .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley .....	62	72 0	27	32 0	24	30 0	45	50 0	44	50 0
Horncastle .....	52	57 0	22	25 0	18	22 0	38	40 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	48	66 0	22	31 0	20	30 0	40	54 0	0	0 0
Lewes .....	52	64 0	0	0 0	23	24 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury .....	48	70 0	26	32 0	24	30 0	44	48 0	42	0 0
Northampton...	55	56 0	27	0 0	23	0 0	41	43 0	0	0 0
Nottingham .....	58	0 0	29	0 0	25	0 0	44	0 0	0	0 0
Reading .....	60	76 0	29	35 0	19	28 0	44	50 0	43	50 0
Stamford .....	46	56 0	22	27 0	18	25 0	36	43 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket .....	52	66 0	24	30 0	23	27 0	31	0 0	0	0 0
Swahsea .....	66	0 0	30	0 0	22	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro .....	65	0 0	34	0 0	30	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warminster.....	47	58 0	25	34 0	24	28 0	48	52 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	40	60 0	25	30 0	23	28 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith* .....	28	33 0	19	26 0	17	21 0	17	19 0	16	17 6
Haddington* ....	26	31 0	17	24 0	15	20 6	14	18 6	14	18 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Ryè, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

*Guildford*, May 13.—Wheat, new, for meal, 14*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* per load. Barley, 31*s.* to 36*s.*; Oats, 26*s.* to 34*s.*; Beans, 43*s.* to 50*s.*; and Pease, grey, 46*s.* to 50*s.* per quarter. Tares, 8*s.* 6*d.* per bushel.

*Norwich*, May 13.—We had but few samples of Corn offered for sale to-day, although there were many persons who had brought their samples to market, but an idea prevailing that the price would be lower, made them determine not to sell to-day, consequently the prices of good Red Wheat were rather higher than last week, and from 48*s.* to 56*s.* was obtained for them; White to 58*s.* Barley sold from 22*s.* to 28*s.* Oats, 21*s.* to 28*s.* Beans, 25*s.* to 39*s.* Peas, 34*s.* to 39*s.* per quarter; and Flour, 45*s.* per sack.

*Bristol*, May 12.—The sales of Corn, &c. here are very limited, and little business is doing. The prices below stated are with difficulty obtained at present:—Wheat, from 4*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 3*d.*; Barley, 3*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*; Oats, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 3*d.*; Beans, 3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*; and Malt, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 3*d.* per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Second's, 30*s.* to 46*s.* per bag.

*Ipswich*, May 13.—But little business is done to-day in our market. The project of Government for setting free the Bonded Corn has paralyzed business: the prices were nominally the same as last week, as follow:—Wheat, 54*s.* to 62*s.*; Barley, 44*s.* to 31*s.*; and Beans, 36*s.* to 38*s.* per quarter.

*Wakefield*, May 12.—The supply of Grain this day has been by no means large, but as few are inclined to purchase in the present unsettled state of trade, Wheat has declined 1*s.* per quarter for the best samples, and little has been done in inferior quality. Oatmeal, from the increased consumption of this kind of food in the manufacturing districts, sold readily at last week's prices. Good fresh Barley obtains the same price as last week. Beans, though not plentiful, cannot be quoted at any higher price. Rapeseed is of very dull sale.—Wheat, Red, 47*s.* to 60*s.*; White, 50*s.* to 64*s.* per 60*l*bs.; Barley, 24*s.* to 26*s.*; fine, 27*s.* per quarter; Beans, old, 40*s.* to 44*s.*; new, 37*s.* to 41*s.* per 68*l*bs.; Oats, Meal, new, 12*d.* to 13*d.* per stone; Shelling, new, 30*s.* to 31*s.*; and Malt, 32*s.* to 36*s.* per load. Flour, fine, 43*s.* to 45*s.* per sack of 280*l*bs. Rapeseed, 16*l.* to 20*l.* per last.

*Manchester*, May 13.—We continue to have but a bare supply of fine qualities of Grain and Flour at our market, which to-day have been more inquired after, and the prices of this day se'nnight are fully supported, and a good deal of business has been done. The effect of the Bonded Grain in the market is very trifling, the holders demanding prices equal to our own produce for that of good quality. Prices may be noted nominally as under.—Wheat, English, 9*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* per bushel of 70*l*bs.; Irish, ditto, 8*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.* 6*d.*; Oats, ditto, 3*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.* per bushel of 45*l*bs.; Beans, 45*s.* to 48*s.* per quarter. Flour, 45*s.* to 48*s.* per sack of 280*l*bs.; Malt, 42*s.* to 46*s.* per load of six bushels.

*Newcastle-on-Tyne*, May 13.—We had a very short supply of Wheat from the farmers this morning, and not much coastwise. The millers at first held off buying, in the expectation that the measures before Parliament would operate to reduce the prices, but at last they cleared the market at an advance of 1*s.* per quarter, upon the terms of last Saturday. Ryē dull sale, and 1*s.* per quarter cheaper. There is scarcely any sale for malting Barley, except for new thrashed Norfolk in small quantities. Grinding Barley is also very dull, and prices lower. The supply of Oats from the farmers was small, and the sale was tolerably brisk at 1*s.* per quarter advance.—Wheat, new, 52*s.* to 57*s.*; foreign, 48*s.* to 54*s.*; Rye, 36*s.* to 38*s.*; foreign, 32*s.* to 36*s.*; Barley, 28*s.* to 30*s.*; foreign, 22*s.* to 26*s.*; Malt, 52*s.* to 58*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 26*s.*; foreign, 17*s.* to 20*s.*; Beans, 42*s.* to 46*s.*; Pease white, 48*s.* to 50*s.* per qr. Imperial measure. Flour, 42*s.* per sack.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, May 13.—The supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was large, and the sale unusually flat, half the quantity at least remained unsold; prices from 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. We had also a liberal supply of Store Stock; what few Scots were disposed of, were at 3s. 9d. to 4s. per stone when fat; Short Horns 3s. to 3s. 6d.; a good lot of Irish also were offered for sale, price about 3s. 6d. Pigs very cheap, fat ones, to 6s. 6d. Meat, Beef, 7d. to 8d. Veal, 5½d. to 8d.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 7½d., and Pork, 6d. to 7½d. per lb.

*Horncastle*, May 13.—Beef, 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 7d.; Lamb, 9d. to 10d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, May 10, there was a great supply of Cattle and Sheep: there being a good many buyers, fat sold readily at last week's prices; inferior met with dull sale, and part of both were not sold. Beef, from 6s. to 6s. 9d.; and Mutton, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended May 6, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	64	6	31	3	26	5
Essex	64	10	29	0	25	11
Kent	62	8	31	4	25	5
Sussex	59	9	31	5	23	6
Suffolk	59	6	29	8	26	8
Cambridgeshire	58	4	29	0	23	2
Norfolk	57	9	27	1	27	0
Lincolnshire	58	9	27	4	21	4
Yorkshire	57	7	28	2	21	6
Durham	61	2	36	6	27	3
Northumberland	55	8	33	0	24	7
Cumberland	62	0	30	0	22	6
Westmoreland	66	0	40	0	24	11
Lancashire	63	11	0	0	24	4
Cheshire	64	10	0	0	24	11
Gloucestershire	64	10	33	10	25	11
Somersetshire	61	2	33	10	22	8
Monmouthshire	61	5	35	10	25	4
Devonshire	62	1	30	6	23	6
Cornwall	62	5	31	6	25	2
Dorsetshire	59	2	30	7	25	5
Hampshire	60	2	31	4	24	8
North Wales	64	9	35	6	20	8
South Wales	60	3	29	8	18	5

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

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## PRESTON ELECTION.

*Kensington, 24th May, 1826.*

THE Parliament will, it seems, be dissolved *on Tuesday next*; and on *Monday next* I shall make my entry into Preston, going through Manchester, Bolton and Chorley.—During my late visit to Preston, we travelled four hundred and sixty miles, we were three evenings at Preston, addressing the people, perambulated the whole of the town twice, were absent only six nights, and got to Kensington again, having slept rather less than twenty-four

hours, during the whole time. Sir Thomas Beavor did more; for he came a hundred miles the day before he set off, and went home another hundred miles during the night that followed the day of his return to London! Well may I put a mark of admiration here; for never did I before witness disinterested public-spirited exertion like this. To fail with such a man by one's side would be an honour greater than any success without him could possibly confer.—The election may take place on the 7th of June; and in all probability it will take place on the 11th.—Several subscriptions

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

have been received, at Fleet-street, during our absence in the North, and since our return. Those who wish to assist us in this way, are requested to do it NOW without loss of time. We are told, that the enemies of Reform and the sticklers for everlasting taxation have started, or are about to start, a fourth candidate at Preston, in order, if possible, to set me aside. I feel confident that they will not succeed; but this circumstance will require *additional exertion of every kind*. Those who wish to give us further pecuniary aid will, therefore, perceive that no time is to be lost. SIR THOMAS BEEVOR, the Treasurer, will be at Preston, *after the 29th of May*; but money, or engagements to pay money, may be sent to him there, addressed to "SIR T. B. BEEVOR, Bart., Castle Inn, Preston, Lancashire;" or money may be subscribed and paid in at Fleet-street, where Mr. John Dean will give receipts by authority of SIR THOMAS BEEVOR, and whence he will receive

daily an account of such subscriptions.—From the outset we resolved to neglect nothing that lay in our power, to accomplish this purpose. Nothing we have neglected; and nothing we will neglect. For my own part, I was resolved that the money should be expended on no corrupt wretches, and in no clandestine transaction. It has frequently been said that if I were in the House I should *do nothing*; I should accomplish nothing; that I should sink out of sight. Let the *trial* take place. After having been acknowledged by the whole nation to have been right with regard to all the great matters appertaining to the nation's difficulties, I felt that it would have been dishonourable not to express a desire, and to make every effort in my power to put myself face to face with those men to whom I have so long been giving warnings in vain. I have expressed that desire; I am making the effort; I trust and I feel confident, that the effort will be crowned with success: and

if it be so crowned; if I be placed face to face with these ruiners of my country, and if I make good the opinion that I *can do nothing*, then I will be content not only to sink out of sight, for the future; but to have it said of me, that I never discovered talent or wisdom in the whole course of my life.—

We have already a considerable sum of money, approaching, I think, to enough for the purpose; but *more may be wanted*; we will not expend a farthing unlawfully or unnecessarily; but, the subscribers have an assurance, that not a farthing will be improperly employed; and that all that is not wanted will be duly returned, in proportion to the amount of each subscription. There are expenses inevitable, and perfectly lawful and just. Beyond these we will not go; but, I beg our rich friends in particular to remember, that our object may be defeated if we fail of a sufficiency of means. Any subscription, actually paid in; or engaged for, by a letter to **Sir THOMAS BEEYER** at Preston,

on or before the 7th day of June may be time enough; and this I beg our friends to bear in recollection. We, on our parts, shall neglect no effort within our power; and I trust that those who wish to see me in that House of Commons, and who possess the means of lending their assistance will also do every thing that is within their power.—Not having time to answer letters at present, I beg all these gentlemen who have written to me on this subject, since the 15th of May, to accept of my thanks for their kindness, and to be so good as to receive this, as an answer to their letters.—It is impossible for me to express a tenth part of the admiration which I feel of the zeal and public spirit which I witnessed in the North. Some of the newspapers, town as well as country, and particularly the *Morning Herald* daily newspaper, have endeavoured to do justice to the subject. But, the subject is one to which no pen can do justice; and let the result be what it may, with regard to

myself, I have seen in the North of England, that which convinces me, that *Englishmen are not doomed to be slaves*. I have seen that which convinces me, that, though a perseverance in the present measures may bring the country down *very low*, she will again revive, and be greater and freer than ever. She is now pressed down by a load, beneath which she can scarcely exist; that load she will finally shake off, and be in reality, and not in vain boast, the envy and admiration of the world. But our friends will excuse me for again repeating that, in such a case, lawful expenditure is not only necessary but proper. The people of Preston are numerous; the electors are numerous, and many of them poor; and even if the seat were obtained without the expenditure of a hundred pounds, it would be due to them after the election were over, for us to drink with the husbands and brothers, and dance with the wives and the daughters. It is what I would

do, at any rate; and I am sure that all our cordial friends would do the same.—Letters received from Preston to-day, and dated on the 22d inst., gives me assurance that the prospect is still as fair as when I left that town. On the day of the election, we shall have our friends from all the numerous towns within forty or fifty miles of Preston. I had the happiness to shake hands with several gentlemen who came from Kendal, in Westmoreland, on purpose to meet me at Preston. We have numerous friends all round the country; and I beg those friends to recollect, that NOW is the time for them to give effect to their wishes. I do, I trust, set them an example of exertion, of zeal, and devotion; and, it is not too much for me to hope that they will follow the example.

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TO THE  
ELECTORS OF PRESTON.

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Kensington, 24th May.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Parliament will be dissolved on or about Tuesday, the

30th of May. I, with Sir THOMAS BEEYOR and a party of friends, shall arrive at Chorley, in the afternoon of Monday, the *Twenty-ninth of May*; and we shall enter Preston between six and seven o'clock in the evening. I left you in good humour and good spirits; and in that humour and those spirits, I am sure I shall find you. It is my intention to see every man of you individually if I can, before the election begins. I hear of coalitions and combinations, some of them of the most unnatural description; but I am resolved to coalesce with nobody, and to rely solely upon your unbiassed votes. There having been some reflection cast upon Radical Reformers, give me leave to state to you that Mr. COKE, of Norfolk, has just declared, at a public dinner in London, that he would "not again offer himself as a candidate for Norfolk, but that his absence might let in a less *straight-forward radical* than himself." Thus, then, here is a radical, who has *something to lose*,

though you have been told, I believe, that radicals are men "who have every thing to gain and nothing to lose."—Gentlemen, we shall be with you at the time above-named; and we shall come with a firm determination to use all the means in our power, to secure that success, which I trust will be looked upon, by the whole nation, as beneficial to it, and as honourable to you. This is no ordinary struggle: it is not a common occasion. It is not merely a man presenting himself to you, to obtain a seat in Parliament: it is the cause of England, on which you have to decide: if you send me to Parliament, as I am confident you will, you send me there, not only with yourselves at my back, but with a very large portion of the intelligent, the public-spirited, the virtuous part of the nation at my back also. Our country is in a state of great difficulty and danger; these cannot be removed without efficient measures being adopted by Parliament; these measures cannot

be adopted without being suggested; I firmly believe that you are convinced that I am the man to suggest such measures; and, therefore, I should, for the first time in my life, begin to despair of my country, if I could doubt of your zeal, and your efficient activity, upon this important occasion.—Let me beseech you, to cast from you all recollection of party squabbles. The nick name of radical has been given to us by our opponents, and, therefore, we take it, not being ashamed of its application. But, for my part, I have always abhorred all these party distinctions of Whig and Tory, and of every other kind. I wish to be known by no other application than that of Englishman. Be men of what party they may, they are all my countrymen; it is my desire to have the good wishes of them all, and it is my duty to contribute towards the happiness of them all, if I can; to do every thing in my power to prevent men of property being despoiled of their fortunes, and to

prevent the working classes from being deprived of those enjoyments, to which they are entitled, by their labours.—I entertain the deepest sense of gratitude for the unbounded kindness which I have received at your hands; and I remain,

Gentlemen,

Your faithful Friend, and

Most obedient Servant,

WM. COBBETT.

## CORN BILLS.

THE Bill for letting out the boarded corn, and also the Bill for empowering the Ministers to let in more corn during the recess of Parliament, passed the House of Lords, on the 23d of May. There was a division on the first Bill of twenty-three against eighty-four; and on the second Bill a division of twenty-eight against seventy-eight. The opposition made to the Ministers upon this occasion came from Noblemen of very different notions as to politics in general; and what they said about

the conduct of the Ministers was perfectly true. It was curious to behold the LORD CHANCELLOR voting one way, and LORD REDESDALE voting the other way! The consequences of the measure have already been ruinous to thousands; and they will be ruinous to hundreds of thousands; but, still, the measures were necessary; and if the landlords suffer, they have the consolation of knowing that it is their own fault. The remedy for them is, that which would be a blessing to us all; namely, a *reduction of taxation*; and that remedy they have completely in their own hands; if they will not apply the remedy, let them suffer. Lord CAERNARVON said, that the Minister "almost held them up to public execration for not agreeing at once to these measures." Let Lord CAERNARVON and the rest of the landlords propose to take off the *malt and beer taxes*; and then, *they will have all the people with them*; and they will save their estates without this odi-

ous tax upon bread. They should say to the Ministers, as people say to one another, "Good vic-tuals deserves good drink, and cheap bread deserves cheap beer: if we have one, let us have the other." This is the language which we want to hear from the landlords: let them say this, and stand to it, and all our difficulties will soon come to an end.

As to the prospects of crop, I have recently crossed eleven counties, and seven out of the eleven in two places, having gone to the North through Liverpool, and come back through Derby and Leicester. In all these counties the wheat is exceedingly good, and the other corn, by no means bad. There is every prospect of a fair average crop of every thing; and if we have such a crop, we shall, I think, come before Christmas, to something very much like the prices of 1822; those prices will destroy whole shoals of farmers; and, after that destruction, what is to come? Yet, to make



corn dear would be to add to the ruin and misery of the manufacturers, if that ruin and that misery admitted of an addition. However, these are the natural effects of the system that we live under; and such effects must go on, until that system be totally changed.

### SILK-TRADE.

IN consequence of my mention (in a speech at Preston) of the *Silks* offered for sale at *half the price of the weaving*, a proceeding has taken place before the Lord Mayor of London, in order to show, that the COMMITTEE for the RELIEF OF THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVERS had nothing to do with such offer. I, in my speech, said nothing about any committee; but I said, that an advertisement was put forth in London, purporting, that the silks, thus offered, were made by the *distressed weavers in Spitalfields*. Now, then, what *was* this advertisement? Here it is, word for

word, from the Morning Chronicle of the 12th May :—

“DISTRESS IN SPITALFIELDS.  
 “—We understand that upwards  
 “of 30,000*l.* worth of rich silks,  
 “satins, gauzes, Barège de Soie,  
 “Gros des Indes, Shawls, &c.  
 “&c., are now selling without the  
 “least reserve, *by commission*, for  
 “the relief of the distressed Ma-  
 “nufacturers in Spitalfields, at  
 “SHEARS and Co.’s, 120, Regent-  
 “street. The goods are warranted  
 “to be of the most fashionable  
 “description, and will be sold  
 “for less than half they cost  
 “making.”

Was there ever any thing plainer than this? How could these goods be sold, for “the relief of the distressed manufacturers in Spitalfields?” How could they be sold for less than half the cost of workmanship, unless the remaining part of the cost came out of the subscription? This might be a *lie*. But, observe well, the Committee for the relief of the weavers never *thought proper to contradict this lie*, until

after the publication of my speech, made at Preston. If it were a lie, why did they not contradict it sooner? Where were these men to get thirty thousand pounds worth of silks, and to be able to sell them for "*less than half the cost of the weaver's wages*"? This Shears and Co. now send a letter to the Editor of the Morning Herald, in the following words, dated on the 23d of May:—

"Sir,—Having seen a report of a certain proceeding before the Lord Mayor, relative to the Silk Trade, in which our names were mentioned, we think it our duty to declare, that we never have announced ourselves, or have authorized any person to announce us, as agents of '*the Committee for the Management of the Subscriptions for the Relief of the distressed Manufacturers.*'"

"We consider this a proper opportunity of stating, that we shall continue our exertions for the Relief of those Manufacturers, by purchasing, with cash

"or receiving on commission any goods which they may enable us to offer to the public at a reasonable price."

Very true: they did not expressly say in their advertisement that they were the "*Agents*" of the Committee; but if they did not make use of the very words, they did full as much; for they said, that they were selling the silks, "**BY COMMISSION, for the relief of the distressed Manufacturers in Spitalfields.**" It is miserable equivocation, therefore, to say that they were not the Agents of the Committee. And again observe, that this advertisement passed wholly unnoticed by that Committee, until after the speech made by me at Preston had been read in London. At any rate the subscribing work gave rise to this advertisement of Shears and Co.; and every one must see that every transaction of this sort must have a tendency to ruin all those whose means are engaged in the silk trade. How are the master manufacturers of

Macclesfield to preserve even a remnant of their property, if thirty thousand pounds worth of silks at a time can be offered for sale in London, at less than half the cost of weaving?

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### MEDAL OF MR. COBBETT.

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THERE is a bronze-medal of me, which has been made from a *cast*, taken about a year ago. It is about four inches in diameter; and is, I believe, a very good likeness, as far as such things ever are, or can be, likenesses. It is, by my permission, sold at No. 183, Fleet-street, *for the artist, or proprietor*. I do not recommend any one to purchase it; it was not made by my desire; I yielded with great reluctance to the taking of the cast; my best picture is in my books; when they shall be forgotten, all other pictures of me will be rubbish: but the artist has made the medal, and that, too, by great labour and at great expense; and I should think it hard

in me not to give this notification on the subject. There are many persons, who are curious in this way: I am not, but I am not to control the taste of others. I have no interest whatever in the thing; I do not even recommend the purchase of it; but, I think it would have been hard to refuse to give this notice of it.—MR. ROUW took the *cast* and made the model, and the die was made by MR. BADDELEY.—The price is ONE POUND.

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### SPEECHES

OF  
SIR THOMAS BEEVOR,  
AND  
MR. COBBETT,

*At Preston, on the 16th and 17th of May, 1826, taken from the Morning Herald, (London Newspaper) of the 19th and 20th of May.*

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*Preston, 16th May.*

SIR THOS. BEEVOR came forward, and spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, I am now come before you, to redeem the pledge of saying a few words to you, regarding

the attempts which have been making to secure Mr. Cobbett's return to Parliament. These attempts originated in the county in which I have the honour to reside, the county of Norfolk, with two or three gentlemen, who, like myself, were readers of Mr. Cobbett's writings—who approved of the principles which he maintained—who admired the talents, the perseverance, the uncompromising, undaunted spirit with which he advocated those principles.—(Cheers.) These gentlemen did me the honour to say that they thought that it was in my power to serve the cause of the public. I acquiesced. I took some steps to promote the object, but waited for a nearer prospect of a dissolution of Parliament, before I took any decisive measures. That prospect now approaches. I have stated, in an advertisement inserted in Mr. Cobbett's *Register* and a few of the London papers, that a meeting would be held for the purpose of promoting the return of Mr. Cobbett. A meeting was accord-

ingly held, where resolutions were agreed to, and a subscription set on foot for defraying any expenses that may take place. So far then we did all that was necessary or in our power to do. There was, however, one thing which we could not do, and that is in your power to do—you have, Gentlemen, in the kindest manner, sent a requisition to Mr. Cobbett, calling on him to offer himself for the representation of this borough. By that act you have done him the greatest honour, and he feels it; and allow me to add, Gentlemen, that you have also done yourselves the greatest honour, for I do not hesitate to say, that you could not find, in the kingdom, a man who possesses, in a greater degree, the power, or who, with the power, unites more the will to serve his country.—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, allow me to say, that I have no selfish motives—no motives of ambition to gratify—I am actuated solely by a desire to serve the general cause of the country. I wish to see the people

well fed, well clothed, happy and contented, as they once were.— (Cheers.) If any man can bring forward and recommend the necessary measures for the safety of the country, Mr. Cobbett is the man; and this is the motive that induces me to take the active part I am taking with a view to promote the return of Mr. Cobbett. I have felt the benefit of attending to his principles in my own private arrangements. I am therefore desirous to see the same principles applied to public transactions, certain that equal benefit would flow from it. Gentlemen, I shall take the liberty of noticing a report which has been industriously circulated in this town. It has been said, I understand, that Mr. Cobbett has no intention of returning to Preston after this visit; that his coming here is only a spree, an amusement, adopted without any serious intention on his part of resuming the purpose which he has stated to you; that his Committee in London are to bear the expenses of the journey, and that

it is done solely with the view of annoying some other candidate. Gentlemen, I will not address the authors of such a report, on the score of principle, but I will appeal to them on that principle which they can appreciate—namely, the principle of interest. Why, Gentlemen, you may all know, for the Resolutions agreed to at a public meeting in London declare it, that in case Mr. Cobbett is not nominated for any place, and that the money is not fairly appropriated to the legitimate purpose of his return, the Committee are bound to restore every farthing of their money to the subscribers. Consequently, if any such intention as that imputed to us in the report be really acted on, the Committee must pay for this spree out of their own pockets. Gentlemen, is it probable that they would act in this manner—is it consistent with common sense? I pledge myself to you that Mr. Cobbett deeply regrets, as I do, the necessity he is under of leaving you at this mo-

ment; that he will, as soon as possible, return here, and will show himself amongst you. As soon as the day of election arrives, here he will be to receive your support, and to fight the battle to the last.—(Cheers.)

Mr. COBBETT then came forward and addressed the Meeting as follows:—" Gentlemen—Again I thank you for the honour you have done me in assembling in such multitudes to listen to what I have to say to you. I last night endeavoured to show to you the necessity of some great change in our affairs—something to alter the nature of the relation between the employer and the employed. I then spoke to you of the means of effecting that necessary change. There are various subordinate means of doing it, but the great remedy of all is a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament.—(Cheers.) Without a Reform you can effect nothing. All that I can do to induce that sort of feeling in the country, that will at

last produce a reform, to create it in the House itself, to call it up amongst the people at large, shall be put in execution; for without a Reform the country must ultimately become one scene of beggary and misery. Let no one flatter himself with the notion, that the bad times, as they are called, are going to pass away. They are not like the bad weather—the frost and snow; they have not been occasioned by the blowing of the winds: they have not been brought about by the nature of the season. No, they are all the work of the acts of the Government. Gentlemen, without a Reform, the conduct of that Government cannot be expected materially to change; and until that Reform take place, nothing will be done that can produce any great benefit to the people. The employers will go on sinking more and more, embarrassments will gather upon them, until they actually become poor men—and as to the workmen, I have not the heart to describe the miseries which they will suffer.

To prevent this impending affliction there must be a Reform in the Representation. We have a right to ask it—to ask such a Parliament as our forefathers had when measures were constantly adopted, under which they lived contentedly, were well clothed, well fed, and had an abundance of all those things which make life easy and happy.—(Great cheering.) I have been told that a certain gentleman, a near resident of this place, has spoken somewhat virulently against what he has been pleased to call the Radical Reformers. I hear, Gentlemen, that he has gone so far as to say, after having been honoured by the promises of votes by some of the electors of Preston, that he absolved (I really do not know who gave him the power of absolution) —(Laughter), all those who promised him their votes, if the promises were made by the men called “Radicals.” You know, I dare say, the gentleman to whom I allude. I do not speak against him, I would not wish to deprive

him of a single vote; but I am very deeply concerned in this sweeping defiance pronounced against the Radicals, seeing that I am myself a Radical—(A laugh),—for I am thoroughly convinced, that until a Radical Reform takes place, it is in vain that you take any measures for relief. The people will go deeper and deeper in misery, until the whole country is sunk in ruin. How comes it, let me ask, that we are called by this same word, “Radical?” We did not give it to ourselves. However, no matter, I assume it, I am satisfied with it. What does it mean? let us see—it comes from the Latin word *radix*, which signifies a root. Radical means, therefore, going to the root. Now we complain that the country is getting worse and worse, that the great distress which is felt arises from the chopping and changing about of the men who govern us. This very Government now admits itself the existence of distress, and, by the by, they are frightened out of their senses at the very moment

they are saying so.—(Loud laughter.) These are the evils—they stare us in the face—and we say the only application ought to be a radical one. If one of your farmers has a d—l of a dock-weed in his ground—he will not cut or pare—he will not lop it to let it grow again—no, he knows its nature to be noxious, and he resolves at once to get clear of it by the root, and he brings him down a terrific dock-digger to turn it out.—(Great laughing.) Now, Gentlemen, this is precisely the course which we Radicals would wish to take.—Shall we not tear up the evils that are exhausting our strength? Shall we not tear them up by the root? Shall we allow them to grow up in our sight? Shall we stand by and see them increasing, and hear the while those Ministers lift up their heads and raise their eyes and pray to God to relieve us? Shall we not put our shoulders to the wheel—unlike the peasant in the fable, who called on Jupiter for assistance, without doing any thing to

assist himself; shall we not put, I say, our shoulders to the wheel, and cry out to God to assist us, at the same time that we are ready to help ourselves?—(Cheers.) Shall we not apply our dock-digger? Shall we not have the evils taken out by the roots?—(Great applause.) Ought this gentleman to have heaped his abuse on the Radicals?—ought he to say that the Radical is as bad as the Tory—ought he to say he should absolve (by the way, I never heard of absolution being given on account of sins, I always thought that it was on account of repentance), but ought he to say, that he would absolve them from their promises for being Radicals? The only sin they committed, the only thing they want absolution for, was for having given him any promise at all.—(Laughter and cheers.) Aye, but these gentlemen themselves do talk of a Reform; they will tell you of Lord John Russell's Reform. Did it happen to any of you ever to see the person of my Lord John Rus-



sell, because if you did, I would take my oath, that not one of you would ever think of listening to any project that he could propose. However, let me explain to you what that plan of his exactly is. In the first place—and this is a secret worth your knowing, particularly at this moment—this Reform plan of my Lord John Russell would take away the votes of about nine-tenths of the electors of Preston. I will tell you how it would do so. The Constitution of our forefathers—Magna Charta—that glorious instrument of our liberties, of which our rulers are wont so much to boast—of which we too boast—which we too think to be a glorious, a useful thing—if we had it—(a laugh); this great Charter contains these impressive words, and they are well worth your attention—they are emphatic, and though in a small compass, contain a great deal—a character that applies to most of the enactments that were framed in those early times:—"Item--It is agreed and recorded that no

Englishman shall be taxed without his own consent."—(Great cheering.) Now, Lord J. Russell says that he adheres to the letter of this clause, and that, according to his plan, all persons who are taxed are to have a vote.—Agreed, we say; let that be so, and we concur at once. "Aye, aye," rejoins Lord John, "but taxed people means people who pay *direct* taxes;" and here is the way you are continually juggled out of your rights. To prove to you how unjust, how iniquitous this course would be, let me state a few particulars to you.—The whole of the taxes for the year 1825, (I have the book by me, it is printed by order of Parliament), according to this book, amounted to 57 millions. Why, the bare mention of such a sum, fifty-seven millions!—is enough to turn the brain of any man but an Englishman.—(Laughter.) Except in England, I don't think there is as much gold in the whole world as would pay this sum. It would make any person but an Englishman staring mad even to

think of such a sum. Nevertheless, it is raised—it is paid by all—it is a charge borne by us all. But Lord John Russell would give the power of voting only to those who paid direct taxes; that is to say, the persons to whom the tax-gatherer actually comes and says, “Pay me so much,” and takes the money and signs a receipt for it. You will see that only of a very few of you indeed can it be said that you pay direct taxes; in fact, of the 57 millions raised in taxes, no more than five millions and some odd hundreds of pounds are raised in direct taxes; the direct tax-payers being only those who keep carriages, dogs, horses, who have more than five windows to their houses, or have land; these are, you perceive, but a few compared with the number of the whole community. And yet, according to Lord J. Russell’s plan of Reform, only those few would have the right of voting at elections. So that the payers of the five millions would have all the votes, and the payers of the re-

maining 52 millions no votes at all.—(Shame.) Is that according to the Constitution? Is it agreeable to justice, to reason, to any principle of humanity, any principle of law ever known in this kingdom?—(No, no.) No, my friends, it is not. Let me explain to you a little how it is you pay these 52 millions; which, though you pay it as sure as it is day, yet you are not to be voters at elections unless you keep carriages, horses, dogs—in short, unless you have those things, which a man can live very well without having at all.—(A laugh.) Let me look to the book,—(taking up the finance account); here it is.—I find the taxes to amount to the sum of fifty-seven millions five hundred and twenty-three thousand pounds, five shillings, and one penny.—(Loud laughing.) You see how they keep the accounts, even to a penny.—(Laughter.) I always admired this Government for being so perfectly correct, so truly scrupulous. In another place we have the account kept to a farthing.—

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Admirable Government! that can, in an account of millions and thousands, carry over a single penny, and make a return of the farthing! —(Much laughing.) They don't, however, with all their wonderful care, tell us how much of it they take for themselves — (a laugh); that they don't do. Shall I now give you a notion of the manner in which you pay this fifty millions of indirect taxes? — (Yes, yes.) In the first place, in beer, there is raised yearly a sum of three millions two hundred and thirty-one thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, thirteen shillings, and eightpence. Drop a great part of the figures; and remember only three millions three hundred thousand pounds. The Lords and great men pay none of this—they don't drink taxed beer—they brew their beer in their own houses; and upon that they take care to lay no tax; then there is no article that enters into the composition of beer besides, that is not taxed; there is the publican's license—the very candle that you drink it by—the very glass you drink out of—the very stool that you sit upon—all are taxed: so that out of sixpence that you pay for your beer at a public-house, and I pledge myself to demonstrate, I know it, for I have brewed it with my own hands,

and I defy any person in the kingdom to contradict me with truth, that fourpence-halfpenny is given to the Government—and that if the taxes were off, you would, for that which you now pay sixpence, pay only three halfpence.—(Great cheering.) And after paying at this precious rate, shall we have no votes? What! only those who keep carriages and dogs to have votes? The next is the tax on candles—the candles that the poor man burns at night in his cottage; and that amounts to 442,789*l.*—a good round sum. He pays sevenpence a pound for candles, which any farmer might make in his own house for threepence. Another item is for printed cotton-goods; and the amount of that is 1,683,496*l.* 18*s.* 8½*d.* Here is a pretty score—nearly two millions—three-fourths of which are paid by the women and girls' gowns—nearly two millions! And then they will not let their husbands vote at elections.—(A laugh.) Now, Gentlemen, this item nearly concerns you. See what three and a half square yards of this article pay in taxes—take off the taxes,—let them be divided between you who work and your employer—or, at all events, if the Government insist upon having it all, they might

allow you at least to vote. Another item deserves your attention—the tax on tea, amounting to 4,225,000*l.* 16*s.* 2½*d.* Keep in mind only the four millions. I explained to you last night, that on this article of tea, whatever the East India Company (that is to say, the merchant) charges for it, the Government lays a tax amounting to that price. If a man pays 20*l.* for a quantity of tea at the India House, the Government makes him pay 20*l.* more to them before he can bring it away; and by the time that it comes to be purchased by the poor man, he is obliged to pay ninepence for that which costs only threepence at the India House. And after even this, he is to have no vote. Then your sugar is taxed; every thing is taxed; it is enough to turn the brain to see these things; tobacco and snuff—a man cannot take a pinch of snuff without paying a tax; the dust between his finger and thumb has yielded a tax; and this tax amounts to nearly two millions. You cannot do any thing—snuff, fill your pipe, eat, drink, without paying tax; every thing you touch, the very air you breathe almost is taxed; and because it is paid in an indirect way, you do not know how—you pay it insensibly—you do not know that you are doing

so; because the tax-gatherer does not come to your door, and make his demand, “Here, pay me so much for this.” I only wish he did come. I only wish the tax-gatherer came to the mistress, at her breakfast, to ask for his threepence on the tea; if he did, I would be bound for it, he would not do it many times.—(Much laughter!) No, no, they don’t go to work in that way; they get it out of you invisibly—you know nothing about it; that lady, who is now looking up at me, thought when she was sipping the pleasing beverage of morning, and may be complaining of its dearth, little she thought that the three-fourths of what she paid for it went into the pockets of the Government.—(Much laughing.) And shall this good lady’s husband not be permitted to vote at elections, because the money paid by her in taxes does not come directly from her to the Government? Is that justice? Will the people be contented with it?—(No, no.) We have convincing reason for believing that if all the Members of that House were sent there by the people freely chosen, as they certainly are not, they would speak the voice of the people. And is it not clear to demonstration, that the people would never desire, nor would their

faithful Representatives, if they had them, suffer them to be overwhelmed, as they are, with this burden of taxes? Therefore, Gentlemen, all these plans of Reform that we hear of--the Reforms of the Lord Johns, the Lord Charleses, the Lord Williams, and the Lord God knows who! (a laugh) are useless at last. They are Reforms that only tend to diminish the power of the people, and never to extend that power. — (Cheers.) Need I say any thing more to show you the injustice of this project of Lord John Russell than this? It would take away nineteen twentieths of the votes which you have to give before a month, and all of which I trust you will give to me!—(A laugh.) And let me tell you, that according to their way of thinking, they are right in making an attempt to deprive the electors of Preston of their votes. They are afraid of the example of such a free principle of election as exists amongst you—they think there is something catching in it—that the country, seeing its benefits among you, would desire to enjoy it themselves; therefore, to be consistent with their own system, they endeavour to break up the body of electors of Preston, reduce you, and make you, as the inhabitants of other boroughs are, a mass of

slaves, to be transferred for money, and to receive your absolution, procured I know not how. I repeat, then, that if Lord John Russell's plan be carried into effect, you will be deprived of your votes! Gentlemen, it cannot be expected—it would be absurd to expect it—that any great change can take place in your favour, until a thorough change is effected in the Commons House of Parliament. A change *there* would be for the universal benefit. What a state the country is in! Every thing is out of joint; ruin every where stares us in the face; ministers are driven to their last shifts; they look around them, not knowing what to turn to next; one time they complain of a surplus of food; another time they complain of a surplus of mouths; population is too thin here; the women have too many children there; now they pay the Irish to emigrate to Canada; then they pay the Scotch to stay at home; in short, they are so bewildered, so completely *bothered*, as they say, that God only knows what will be the end of it all. But, Gentlemen, one thing is sufficiently clear—it becomes us to do all we can to promote the welfare and happiness of our neighbours, our children, and our country. You have, Gentlemen;

a great deal in your power. If it were not my sincere conviction, as it is, that I could do a great deal in that House, I would not, I assure you, give you or myself the trouble of offering to represent you in Parliament. But I am convinced that I can do much there; you have it in your power to send me there; if you do send me there, I will discharge my duty in every one of the respects that I am called upon to act. It may happen, Gentlemen, the day may come when the voters at Preston those, at least, who shall have voted for me, shall have to say, "Behold our country is saved; such and such a good has been achieved; every class is prosperous; our freedom is secured; our Sovereign is safe; our Constitution is unimpaired; and we, the men of Preston, have the glory of having sent to the House of Commons, the man who has taken the lead in proposing the measures which have produced these good results."—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I say this, and you are very well convinced that I say it in the most serious sense it can be spoken. I call on you to do your duty; I am ready to perform mine. I pledge myself to you never, directly or indirectly, to put one farthing of your earnings into my

pocket. What need I? I live upon the means supplied my own industry. I have enough; I have as much as I want in my own earnings; to these earnings I have a right, and I do enjoy them; and nothing that Kings or Parliament could bestow is an object of ambition to me. I am ambitious about nothing except to serve my country—above all, to serve that labouring, working class, in which I myself was born, and to belong to which has been my pride—will be my pride to the day of my death.—(Loud cheering.) Gentlemen, I thank you for the patience with which you have heard me; it would give me the greatest pleasure to remain amongst you, but that I must start, I think, to-morrow night, to travel all night to London. The moment I hear that Parliament is dissolved, that moment I will set out to join you. You will then have the opportunity of effecting that purpose which I hope you will effect, and which, when it is effected, will be as much to your interest as it is to my honour.—(Loud cheering.)

*Preston, May 17.*

Mr. COBBETT paraded the streets in an open carriage this evening, attended by some of his immediate friends, and a large con-

course of followers, with flags and music, enlivened the procession. Before the inn, from the window of which he spoke, a much greater crowd was collected than on any former day. His address was to the following effect:—He began by giving a flat denial to a report which he understood prevailed in the town, that he and his friends came down there merely for sport. It was pretty sport to travel such a distance. However, he declared, that as soon as he ascertained the time at which a dissolution would take place, and as soon as the election was fixed, he and Sir T. Beever would leave London and join his friends at Preston. He and Sir T. Beever had just signed a paper to that effect, addressed to the electors of Preston. They might therefore treat all such rumours as idle fictions intended to deceive and mislead. He had, he said, made up his mind to enable the electors of Preston to triumph, through him, to make him the instrument of their victory over bad principles, over misgovernment, over all those sources of injury and misfortune to the country. "Gentlemen," continued Mr. Cobbett, "I last night had the pleasure of explaining to you the nature of that Parliamentary Reform which I deemed necessary to

the effecting of the great change which the condition of our country requires so much. I explained to you why that Reform was called Radical. I showed you how, for the want of that reform, the country was continually suffering, and would continue to suffer, and particularly the labouring classes; how, for want of it, the dinner of the workman was taken from him—his dinner, for that after all, is the practical mischief; it is not talking about the name of the thing, nor about principles, but it is viewing the operation of the system as it produces practical mischief—as it takes away from the working man his dinner, and gives it to the idle man who ought to have no dinner at all. This is the way to look at it with a view to its producing the proper impression upon our minds. If I am not able to demonstrate the truth of that which I assert, with respect to this system, then consider me as an impostor, or a deluder of the people, as one who seeks to stir up discord, and breed confusion, instead of trying, as solemnly is my object, to establish order, and perpetuate harmony throughout the country. Gentlemen, they tell us that our plan of reform is impracticable—that is, that it cannot be carried into effect—it can't be

done: I only wish they would try. —(A laugh.) It is a maxim we are all acquainted with, try before you give up. Let them try: we only ask for the country much about the same sort of system for our reform that you have here amongst you in Preston. They say, if our plans were carried into effect, they would create combustion, bring about confusion, and God knows what. Why, Gentlemen, let me ask, is there any combustion in Preston? —(A laugh.) I hear of none. I hear of no throats being cut—no revolution going on—property is as safe here—lives are as secure here as in any part of the country with which I am acquainted. And yet here you have something like Universal Suffrage. Here is in practice that thing which they tell us is the fertile source of confusion and revolution, and where do you find a more beautiful town in England—a people more peaceful and orderly? Here are before me probably ten thousand people; among you there is no ill-humour—no not even one instance of disorder, from the beginning to the end, have I observed throughout the immense multitudes which have assembled for these three days. And yet you have the system of representation amongst you

which is denounced as the producer of disturbance. Gentlemen, we want for the whole country to have the benefit of this system. We ask for the law of England—the law of our forefathers, which says that no Englishman shall be taxed except by his own consent; that is to say, by his consent, given by himself or his representative in the Commons House of Parliament. — Commons House, Gentlemen, pray observe; for formerly all Englishmen who were not Nobles were called the Commons.—It was not the lower orders, nor the mob, but the Commons. We want the law which says that every man who pays a tax shall have a vote in putting a member into the House of Commons. Now, if you can show me a man in the country that pays no tax, he must, in the first place, wear no clothes—(a laugh); he must neither eat nor drink—he must be such a man as Mr. Malthus and the anti-breeding people would have—stark naked, neither eating nor drinking. Find me only such a man, and then I shall say, “Let that fellow have no vote.”—(Loud laughing.) Let every man come to age have a vote—I say every man who is not incapacitated by infirmity—every man who is not a criminal—who



has not been a felon—every innocent man in the community, is entitled to a vote at elections. O, but, say they, there would be a difficulty—there would be such fuss and confusion in making out the lists of those who have arrived at the age of 21 in each parish or district. But please to remember, good Gentlemen, you found out the way of doing it for the militia—(cheers and laughter), and you do still find it out for the same purpose. Yes, you find out the name of every householder—his Christian name—his surname—his place of residence; and you compel the landlord to disclose the same particulars respecting an inmate of his house: not only do you do this, but you find out if he is healthy—if all his limbs are perfect;—if, in short, he is fit to be a soldier. And then you have your lists and balloting-box; and, when you draw the name of a particular party, if he is not ready to come forward, you clap him into prison. Why can you not have your lists and your account of particulars as well for an election? Let them but try; but no, they will not—like all those who could, but will not—they never will concur in a change, until there is somebody in the proper place who has the courage to

propose it, and the skill to show its necessity by arguments so cogent that there is no getting rid of them. Again, Gentlemen, they say—well, if you had this reform, what good would it do you? I'll tell you in a moment what good it would do:—Earl Grey, when he was Mr. Grey, in the year 1793, presented a petition to the House of Commons, of which he was a Member, and which petition is recorded on the Journal of the House. In this petition, signed by his own hand, he stated, and offered to prove the assertion at the bar of the Honourable House, that sixty-five Noblemen, Members of the House of Peers, and fifteen or sixteen great Commoners, returned by their influence, a majority of the Members of the House of Commons. You know, Gentlemen, that every thing in that House is decided by the majority, so that in effect the handful of Peers and Commoners who returned the majority, might as well have returned the whole. Well, Gentlemen, they having possession of this power, what use do they make of it? Why, to provide excellently well for their families and dependants out of the taxes. No sparing here: they provide for them excellently well; and this is why they lay on taxes.

It would be strange indeed, if having the facility, they did not use it to serve themselves and their relatives. Hence the enormous grants voted nominally to the King. But the King don't get any of it—he no more spends it than you or I. No, it goes to the Master of the Horse—the Steward of the Household. This one takes a part, the other has a share—in this way they cut and divide it amongst them. This, Gentlemen, is the grease that greases the wheels of the machine. It is a monstrous machine, the wheels of which would never be got to turn were it not for the application of this grease. Another effect of Reform would be the putting down of the enormous system which has brought about all this distress. It is not a distress of a moment—existing to-day and gone in a few months—no; it arises from the accumulation of debt during the late war, and the enormous dead-weight, making in all 37 millions out of the 57 millions, and five millions more are paid for collecting alone. Gentlemen, I proclaim it—it should be known to all the country—every man should repeat it once a day for a twelvemonth, that the bare collection of the taxes, including payments of all sorts, whether salaries

or pensions in that account, the bare collecting costs the country every year more money than the whole taxes of the United States of America amount to, for the maintenance of the Government, for the payment of the interest of their debt, for supporting their army, and for building up a large fleet at the same time, which, if we don't take care, will be ready in a short time to cope with the fleet of England, and while all this is going on the people are living well and contentedly. Is not this monstrous? is it not sufficient to awaken any people? Can the system be a good one which has such materials to compose it?—No. But, Gentlemen, to return to the debt and the dead weight. Persons may talk as they will, but they censure Ministers unjustly, who blame them for not taking off the taxes, and do not first ask them to reduce the interest of the Debt. In the county of Norfolk, in the year 1823, we petitioned for a reduction of the interest of the Debt, and a reduction of taxes, but we accompanied our prayer with this condition—that they would not touch one farthing of the Debt, until they first abolished all unmerited salaries, grants, and pensions. Not one farthing was to be taken from the

fundholder until they had first done that. Let them take away a large part of the taxes. There will be no distress—men's lives will be easier—there will be no disposition to disturbance—there will be no need of an army to keep the peace. And why, Gentlemen, do they not wish to adopt this easy course? Because they do not like to part with these grants, these sinecures, these emoluments, which they now so abundantly enjoy. How, then, are we to have the Debt reduced? There is the itch. How are they to be prevailed upon to take the preliminary step of giving up their own emoluments? Why by the people's unanimous voice — by that voice being addressed to them in a loud significant tone. And how are the people to be induced to utter that voice, unless there be somebody within the House with the courage, and the industry, and the knowledge sufficient to state facts, and urge them to the consideration of those facts by adequate arguments? These arguments and facts must be reiterated: they must by repetition be made familiar to the nation. That done, the system ends. Let the people only be unanimous, and that is sufficient. The rich man as well as the poor man will ask for a

change. The farmer, the master manufacturer, will see that it is his interest to have a change as well as the poor man, and unanimity once established between the middling class and the working class, there is an end of the system. The interest of the debt would then be reduced. The taxes would be brought down to what they were before the war. Before the last war the taxes of the country were sixteen millions, now they are fifty-seven millions, and that increase has taken place without being accompanied by the smallest increase in the means of paying it. If statements like these being made in the House itself were spread abroad amongst the people, if there was a man in that House of courage, of ability, with a sufficient stock of knowledge, but above all, with integrity, that would impress upon the House, and convince the country that a change was indispensable, then would the system end, and then would the country be prosperous and happy once more. Then would the shipowner, the merchant, the great farmer, the manufacturer, be enabled to preserve their profits for their children. Then would the working classes live better—wheat would be four shillings the bushel—beer two-pence the pot—the

master would get a fair return from his enterprise—the workman would get the fruits of his industry—then we might set the foreign manufacturers at defiance—then there would be no half work—no cribbing of wages—then there would be no want of employment—no want of adequate reward for labour—there would be no ruined master—no starving men.—(Cheers.)

Gentlemen, I have said it a hundred times—you all know it as well as I do, that the presence of such a man as I have described to you in the House of Commons, is absolutely necessary to the beginning of the change which is required.

It is my thinking this—it is my conviction on that score, that brings me here. Gentlemen, such a man as I have described to you, it is in your power to return to Parliament. I am not guilty of presumption in saying, that I am such a man—the whole country thinks it—the whole country says it, and I believe there is not a man of you that does not think, and that would not say it. If I were in that House, Gentlemen, I would do my duty; I would produce such an effect as I have stated it is necessary to produce, in order to lay the foundation of a great change. It is, therefore, with confidence, that I ask you

for the power to begin. I am persuaded that you will give me what I ask; and I would not ask it, were I not certain that I would prove the means of saving the country. Gentlemen, if you do send me into that House, the time will come, when you will have to say ope to another, "We have done our duty; we have discharged the sacred trust committed to us, not for our own sakes, but for the good of our country; we have sent the man into Parliament who has saved her."—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I am obliged to set off to-night, and make all haste to London. The moment I hear the period of Election fixed, I shall be amongst you, to take all the lawful means necessary for the accomplishment of this purpose, which, when accomplished, will be to you a subject of great triumph, as to me it will be an honour. Gentlemen, I thank you for the great honour you have done me since my arrival within the territory of Preston. Greater honour you could not do me. You have done me all the honour you can. I feel all the gratitude which it is possible for the human heart to feel. Gentlemen, I bid you farewell. Good night, and God bless you!

## MARKETS.

**Average Prices of CORN through-  
out ENGLAND, for the week end-  
ing May 13.**

<i>Per Quarter.</i>					
<i>s. d.</i>			<i>s. d.</i>		
Wheat ..	59	10	Rye ....	37	9
Barley ..	29	3	Beans ...	38	6
Oats ....	23	1	Pease ...	39	1

**Aggregate Average of the six weeks  
preceding May 15, by which im-  
portation is regulated.**

<i>Per Quarter.</i>			
	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
Wheat .....	59	10	
Rye .....	36	4	
Barley .....	31	6	
Oats .....	23	8	
Beans .....	37	4	
Pease .....	38	5	

**Total Quantity of Corn returned as  
Sold in the Maritime Districts, for  
the Week ended May 13.**

<i>Qrs.</i>		<i>Qrs.</i>	
Wheat ..	33,751	Rye ....	244
Barley ..	8,143	Beans ...	3,164
Oats ...	28,625	Pease ...	516

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

**Quantities and Prices of British  
Corn, &c. sold and delivered in  
this Market, during the week ended  
Saturday, May 13.**

<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wheat..	4,174	for 12,535	6 3	Average, 60 0
Barley..	1,274	.. 1,783	13 10	28 0
Oats..	13,719	.. 17,594	19 10	25 7
Rye....	20	.. 31	10 3	31 6
Beans..	1,479	.... 2,780	11 1	37 7
Pease ..	177	.... 349	6 2	39 5

**Friday, May 19.**—The arrivals of this week are small, being much short of an average supply. Fine samples of Wheat alone obtain the quotations of Monday; for other sorts there has been scarcely any demand. In Barley, Beans, and Pease, there is hardly any trade. Oats have sold heavily at last quotations. The Flour trade very dull.

**Monday, May 22.**—During the week past the arrivals of English Grain have been moderate; there were a good many vessels from Ireland with Oats, and a fair quantity of Flour. This morning the fresh supply consists chiefly of a pretty fair show of Wheat samples from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk. The weather is considered favourable to the crop of Wheat, and the Mealings trade is in consequence very dull, at a decline on runs of 1s. per qr. from the terms of this day se'nnight; but picked samples have obtained 2s. to 3s. more than our top quotations.

There is scarcely any trade for Malting Barley, and it may be reported rather lower, but dry Grinding parcels fully maintain last quotations. Beans and Pease are each in short supply, and remain as last quoted. The weather being dry, occasions rather more demand for Oats, and such parcels as are sweet, have met sale at the rates of this day se'nnight. The Flour Trade continues extremely heavy.

**Price of Bread.**—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack	.....50s. — 55s.
— Seconds	.....42s. — 46s.
— North Country	..40s. — 43s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from May 15 to May 20, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	4,623	Tares ....	398
Barley ..	385	Linseed ..	352
Malt....	7,564	Rapeseed ..	—
Oats ....	17,930	Brank ..	—
Beans ...	638	Mustard ..	—
Flour ....	7,639	Flax ....	—
Rye .....	—	Hemp ....	—
Pease.....	385	Seeds ....	—

Foreign.—Wheat, 400; Oats, 6,941; and Beans 595 quarters.

Monday, May 15.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 200 firkins of Butter, and 2,398 bales of Bacon, and from Foreign Ports, 3,603 casks of Butter.

### HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, May 22.—The late change of weather has improved the appearance of the Bines, though the flies have appeared in various quarters, and should we have warm rains, will most probably increase. Prices remain stationary, though not much disposition to force sales.

Maidstone, May 18.—The weather having become a little warmer these last few days, has been more favourable for the Hops, which have grown very fast, and we do not hear so much about the vermin as was reported last week.

Worcester, May 17.—In our market on Saturday, 236 pockets were

weighed; prices for 1825's, 11*l*. 11*s*. to 12*l*. 12*s*.; very choice higher. No inquiry for Old Hops. The account from the Plantation state that the bine has grown fast since the weather has been warmer. A few flies have been seen in many parts of Kent and Sussex, but this had no effect on the price.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 22.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	4	0	to	4 10
Mutton ...	3	10	—	4 4
Veal .....	5	0	—	6 0
Pork .....	4	4	—	5 4
Lamb .....	5	6	—	6 6

Beasts ...	2,126	Sheep ..	20,830
Calves ...	190	Pigs ...	190

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 4
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 8
Lamb .....	4	8	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	2	to	4 0
Mutton ...	3	6	—	4 2
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 4
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	0	—	6 0

COAL MARKET, May 19.

	Ships at Market.	Ships sold.	Price.
8½ Newcastle..	74	27 <i>s</i> . 0 <i>d</i> .	to 35 <i>s</i> . 0 <i>d</i> .
1 Sunderland..	1	37 <i>s</i> . 0 <i>d</i> .	— 0 <i>s</i> . 0 <i>d</i> .

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 10 to	5 30
Middlings.....	2 15 —	3 0
Chats .....	2 15 —	0 0
Common Red..	0 0 —	0 0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.	

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware .....	£3 10 to	6 0
Middlings.....	2 10 —	3 10
Chats.....	2 0 —	0 0
Common Red..	3 10 —	6 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....60s. to 95s.

Straw...30s. to 40s.

Clover.. 70s. to 110s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 60s. to 100s.

Straw .. 30s. to 42s.

Clover .. 80s. to 105s.

Whitechapel.—Hay....66s. to 90s.

Straw...36s. to 42s.

Clover..84s. to 110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

*The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.*

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.
Aylesbury .....	52	64	0	32	34	0	25	30	0	43	44	0	0	0	0
Banbury .....	48	58	0	28	32	0	26	32	0	40	44	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke ....	50	63	0	27	29	0	22	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	48	58	0	32	0	0	22	23	0	46	52	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	52	68	0	29	32	0	28	32	0	34	37	0	38	40	0
Derby.....	58	64	0	28	32	0	25	29	0	40	45	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	46	62	0	29	35	0	24	32	0	46	52	6	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	52	62	0	25	28	0	22	26	0	46	50	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	64	68	0	34	38	0	24	26	0	28	32	0	0	0	0
Eye.....	54	60	0	30	32	0	22	26	0	34	36	0	32	34	0
Guildford.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henley.....	60	74	0	27	34	0	24	31	0	42	48	0	40	47	0
Horncastle.....	52	58	0	22	28	0	20	23	0	35	40	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	48	66	0	22	31	0	20	30	0	40	54	0	0	0	0
Lewes.....	56	64	0	0	0	0	24	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbury.....	46	70	0	27	34	0	21	32	0	43	48	0	42	0	0
Northampton....	42	59	0	28	29	0	22	26	0	40	42	0	0	0	0
Nottingham.....	58	0	0	29	0	0	25	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0
Reading.....	60	76	0	29	35	0	19	28	0	44	50	0	43	50	0
Stamford.....	50	58	0	26	29	0	20	25	0	38	39	0	0	0	0
Stowmarket ....	52	66	0	24	30	0	23	27	0	31	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea.....	66	0	0	23	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro.....	65	0	0	34	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warminster.....	48	60	0	27	37	0	24	27	0	42	56	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	55	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*.....	25	30	0	19	23	0	16	20	0	15	19	0	15	19	0
Haddington*.....	24	29	6	15	23	0	14	19	0	14	18	0	14	18	0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

*Liverpool*, May 16.—The imports of Grain during the past week have again been very small; towards the end of this period, however, Wheat, Oats, Flour, and Oatmeal, were taken off pretty freely, at fully the prices of last Tuesday. The market of this day was well attended, and purchases to a fair extent were made of Wheat, at an advance of fully 3d. per 70 lbs.; Oats at 1½d. per 45 lbs., and Flour and Oatmeal 1s. per sack beyond the prices of this day se'nnight. For very fine Dantzig Wheat *in bond* 6s., 6d. per 70 lbs. was offered and declined for 1,000 quarters.

Imported into Liverpool from the 9th to 15th May, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 3,167; Barley, 308; Oats, 6,541; Malt, 1,730; Beans, 362; and Pease, 31 quarters. Flour, 2,293 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 2,308 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Guildford*, May 20.—We had a good supply of Wheat to-day; the quality in general very fine, but the market very dull, and lower prices were submitted to.—Wheat, new, for meal, 14l. to 18l. 10s. per load. Barley, 31s. to 36s.; Oats, 26s. to 34s.; Beans, 43s. to 50s.; and Pease, grey, 46s. to 50s. per quarter. Tares, 8s. 6d. per bushel.

*Norwich*, May 20.—We had a middling supply of Wheat to-day, and the demand brisk:—Prices of Red from 48s. to 56s.; White to 58s.; what few samples of Barley were offered sold from 22s. to 28s.; Oats, 21s. to 28s. Beans, 36s. to 39s.; Peas, 34s. to 40s. per quarter; and Flour, 44s. to 45s. per sack.

*Bristol*, May 18.—The business done in the Corn markets at this place during the last week was very trifling, except in the article of Oats, which sold freely at rather improved prices. Supplies moderate. Present prices about as follow:—Wheat, from 4s. 9d. to 7s. 3d.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 4½d.; Beans, 3s. to 5s. 6d.; and Malt, 4s. 6d. to 7s. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Second's, 30s. to 46s. per bag.

*Ipswich*, May 20.—At our market to-day we had scarcely anything but Wheat, the sale of which was very dull at about last week's prices, as follow:—Wheat, 54s. to 62s.; Barley, 24s. to 32s.; and Beans, 38s. to 39s. per quarter.

*Wakefield*, May 19.—There is a good supply of Wheat fresh up to-day; the best samples have gone off slowly at an advance of 1s. per quarter, but there is no improvement in inferior sorts. There is a good demand for Oats at rather more money; Shelling is scarce, and ready sale at 1s. more than could be obtained last week. Good fresh Malting Barley is in demand, at an improvement of 1s. per quarter, but Grinding qualities meet very dull sale. Beans are unaltered. Malt is very heavy. There is nothing doing in Rapeseed.—Wheat, Red, 48s. to 62s.; White, 51s. to 66s. per 60lbs.; Barley, 26s. to 28s.; fine, 29s. per quarter; Beans, old, 40s. to 44s.; new, 37s. to 41s. per 63lbs.; Oats, Meal, new, 12½d. to 13½d. per stone; Shelling, new, 31s. to 33s.; and Malt, 32s. to 40s. per load. Flour, fine, 45s. to 47s. per sack of 280lbs. Rapeseed, 14l. to 19l. per last.

*Manchester*, May 20.—We had a good attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day, with a disposition to buy any thing of good quality, which is held at a small advance on this day week. The supply of any kind of Grain is by no means large; the demand is also very much curtailed, only the Charitable Committees are now buying more freely. Of Flour we have pretty free arrivals from Ireland. Currency as under.—Wheat, English, 9s. 6d. to 10s. per bushel of 70lbs.; Irish, ditto, 8s. to 9s.; Oats, ditto, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 7d. per bushel of 45lbs.; Beans, 45s. to 50s. per quarter; Barley, 3s. 9d. to 4s. 3d. per 60lbs. Malt, 38s. to 45s. per load of six bushels; Flour, 48s. to 50s. per sack of 280lbs.



## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, May 20.—We had a good supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, and many remained unsold; prices 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. The supply of Store Stock was also good; Scots sold from 3s. 9d. to 4s. 3d. per stone when fat; Short Horns 3s. 6d. to 4s. Pigs in large numbers and selling cheap. Meat, Beef, 7d. to 8½d. Veal, 5½d. to 8d.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, to 8d., and Pork, 6d. to 8d. per lb.

*Horncastle*, May 20.—Beef, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 7d.; Lamb, 9d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

At *Morpeth Market*, on the 17th inst. there was a good supply of Cattle and Sheep: there being many buyers, both sold readily; prices much the same as last week.—Beef, from 6s. to 6s. 6d.; and Mutton, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended May 13, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	63	10	30	1	25	7
Essex .....	64	5	30	2	25	11
Kent.....	60	3	32	1	25	9
Sussex.....	59	0	31	6	25	0
Suffolk .....	58	10	28	3	27	7
Cambridgeshire.....	57	5	29	3	22	7
Norfolk .....	56	10	26	0	25	7
Lincolnshire .....	55	5	25	3	18	3
Yorkshire .....	56	0	26	10	21	3
Durham .....	59	6	0	0	27	1
Northumberland .....	55	5	32	3	24	3
Cumberland .....	61	5	29	11	22	11
Westmoreland .....	65	7	38	10	24	8
Lancashire.....	61	8	0	0	24	6
Cheshire .....	63	7	0	0	23	2
Gloucestershire.....	63	4	34	1	24	0
Somersetshire .....	60	5	33	6	21	8
Monmouthshire.....	60	11	35	1	26	0
Devonshire.....	61	2	28	7	0	0
Cornwall.....	62	10	31	11	25	1
Dorsetshire .....	57	5	27	6	23	7
Hampshire .....	56	9	30	3	22	1
North Wales .....	62	1	34	10	20	10
South Wales .....	59	0	29	9	18	9

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

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## MR. COBBETT'S ENTRY INTO PRESTON, ON MONDAY, MAY 29TH.

[From the Morning Herald, June 1st.]

*Bolton, May 29.*

EARLY this forenoon, Mr. Cobbett, accompanied by his four sons, and some friends, entered this town on their way to Preston. They were met as they approached the town, by a large concourse of persons, it having been well known yesterday, that Mr. Cobbett would pass through here to-day. The party having arrived in the town, Mr. Cobbett took the opportunity, whilst the horses were changing, of addressing the people. He ascended to a window of the Bridge-Inn, and spoke for about ten minutes. His speech was pretty much to the effect of that which he afterwards addressed to the assembly at Preston.

*Chorley, May 29.*

It having been announced this morning, that Mr. Cobbett would be here in the course of the day, a vast crowd of persons went out to meet him. Early this evening he entered the town in an open carriage, attended by four of his sons, and some friends from Manchester. He stopped at the Royal Oak Inn, and addressed the crowd from one of the windows:—

"I left my native country," said he, "at sixteen years of age. I well recollect the thriving, contented, plentiful state in which I left the labouring classes. I stayed abroad until I was thirty years of age. On my return, how differently situated I found my poor countrymen. I found them impoverished, deprived of their good bedding; their clothes, their brass kettles were gone: I found them beyond measure miserable, compared with what they had been when I was a boy. From seeing all this I was animated by a strong desire to alter your situation. I was born, and bred amongst you: it is my duty, I feel it, to spend the rest of

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

my life, as I have spent a great portion of it hitherto, in endeavours to improve your condition; in endeavours, in short, to leave you, at least, in the situation in which I found you." (This speech was followed with great applause.)

As soon as Mr. Cobbett resumed his seat in the carriage, the party proceeded on to Preston. On their way, they saw on the hills on both sides, flocks of people descending towards the road to meet them; and by the time they arrived at a little village, called Bamberbridge, about seven miles nearer to Preston, the crowd had swelled to a vast body indeed. It was remarkable here that the great majority of the assembly was composed of young women. They appeared to desire that Mr. Cobbett should address them; when Mr. Caudelet stood up, and told them that his friend Mr. Cobbett had travelled a great way, was very much fatigued, and could not then address them. But Mr. Cobbett said, that seeing so many pretty smiling faces, he could not leave them without saying a few words to them. He explained to them the way in which they particularly were made to pay taxes;—they paid a tax on sugar, tea, soap, &c.; the items of which he minutely explained. "Now," said Mr. Cobbett, "this is the way in which you pay the taxes, though you do not know that you are paying them. But we have been told by Sir Robert Peel, the great master-manufacturer, you know, that this paying of taxes is nothing—it is only a paying by one part of a family into the pockets of another part—it is all in the family way.—(Great laughter.) To be sure it is in the family way;

but you will please to recollect; how many a single family get as much as all of you here together, and get it too out of your earnings. A pretty family concern it is truly. (Loud laughing.) These things must be remedied. Measures must be proposed and adopted for that purpose; and it is in your power to do something towards that issue, by helping to send to Parliament, a man who can propose such a measure. I therefore exhort you, my fair countrywomen, to exercise that influence with which you are gifted over those men, who have any thing to do with Preston. You are all so young, that I am sure you cannot be married. If you have not husbands, you certainly have sweethearts—prevail on them, such at least as are connected with Preston, to give me all the support they can."—Mr. Cobbett then proceeded to Preston.

At six o'clock, a large body of persons, preceded by a band of music, and bearing amongst them a number of flags, went out towards Walton to meet Mr. Cobbett. Having waited here for some time, Mr. Cobbett and his party arrived. Here a procession was commenced to Preston; which was prodigiously increased by the time it arrived at that town. The scene was altogether very animated. The crowd was much more numerous, and far more excited than it had been on any former occasions. A greater proportion of the assemblage, too, carried green branches, the size and thickness of which made them, in many instances, to be borne with difficulty. Amongst the flags which decorated this procession, the most remarkable was one of a very considerable size, of a cylindrical

shape. On one side was a full length figure of Mr. Cobbett. On another side was seen Britannia weeping, a lion prostrate with a trident through his head. In another compartment, John Bull appeared with the debt on his back, and he almost sinking under the weight, whilst death was striking at him, and he bleeding at every pore. Hope with her anchor, however, was by. The following verses, from Cowper's "Table Talk," were handsomely written under the several devices:—

And all his country beaming in his face,

No sycophant or slave that dared oppose  
Her sacred cause, but trembled when he rose;  
And ev'ry venal stickler for the yoke,  
Felt himself crush'd at the first word he spoke.  
Such men are rais'd to station and command,  
When Providence means mercy to a land.  
He speaks and they appear; to him they owe  
Skill to direct, and strength to strike the blow;  
To manage with address, to seize with power  
The crisis of a dark decisive hour.

When the carriages had arrived at the Castle Inn, the multitude had increased to an extent beyond all power to enumerate them. The carriages could not be brought to approach the inn, so densely had the people been wedged together. Under these circumstances the horses were sent away, and Mr. Cobbett was lifted from the carriage, on the back of one of the crowd, and carried, amid much cheering and laughter, into the Castle Inn. The remaining inmates of the carriage were obliged to remain where they were until the business of the day was over. The whole area of the spacious market-place was now closely filled, and the avenues leading to it were likewise thronged—the windows on all sides presented a display of the beauty and fashion of Preston. After the lapse of a few minutes,

Mr. CAUDELET, who accompa-

nied Mr. Cobbett from Manchester, addressed the assembly for a short time, exhorting the electors to support Mr. Cobbett.

Mr. COBBETT then appeared at the window, and was received with the loudest acclamations. He spoke to the following effect. Gentlemen, after the fatigues of this day, after having had the honour of addressing three assemblies of the people of Lancashire already, it is impossible for me to speak to you now at any great length. If I was even able I am not so disposed, after so much of your time has been already occupied. Gentlemen, being at Bolton as I have been this day, I could not refrain from recollecting—and recollecting, I could not refrain from expressing that which was passing in my mind. Recollecting that there were days when a poor man of Bolton was put into prison, put into prison by the order of magistrates; and when his offence, when the crime laid to his charge was, going round the town, and announcing to his fellow townsmen, that William Cobbett, their countryman, had arrived at Liverpool in good health. Yes, we have seen the days when it was thought a crime for a man to go round a town to tell his townsmen that an Englishman had returned in good health to his native land. I hope that we shall never see those days again. I lament, yes, lament the losses of the merchants and the manufacturers, and those others who are now suffering. I am sorry for their ruin, and the ruin of their families. I lament the general distress. I lament the difficulties of those in high life. I do not enjoy even the difficulties of those Ministers themselves: but

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situation or other in the Government, Mr. Canning being then Paymaster of the Navy, I think it was. We differed, of course, in politics. From that time we all started, I taking one course, they taking another: they have pocketed since then much of the public money. I never took one farthing of it. Who is now best off? Do you think that I would exchange conditions with any of them? They have power and place: one is Prime Minister, one is Minister of Foreign Affairs, the third is the Trade Minister; all have attained the height of political influence. With all this, is there one of them this moment that would not be glad to be in my place? I always disliked the system. I said from the very beginning, that if the system were persevered in, it would bring the country to beggary—under it the people never could be accurately paid for their labour. If there be not a change, I constantly said, England will become the most degraded country on the face of the earth. I always refused to accept of place, or emolument, or power. I never would touch one farthing of the public money. These are the grounds on which I offer myself to you. I offer myself to you also, because I understand how to manage the affairs of the nation better than those who now have the management of them. I will give you an instance in which I showed that I understood these matters better than the Prime Minister at all events. Lord Liverpool said, no later than last July, that the country was enjoying prosperity—prosperity would be general, said he, and it will last. Now, I said, at the

very same time, the very contrary of all this. I said then, that the country banks would break before Christmas,—and they did blow up accordingly. Well then, Gentlemen, as I said before to you, I should be ashamed to come down here, a distance of two hundred miles, to ask you to be so good as to make me a Member of Parliament, unless I was able to show you some good reason why you should comply with my wishes. Why you should do so, I have partly explained. I shall, on future occasions, many of which will be in my power, take the opportunity of explaining still further why you should do so. But it seems, Gentlemen, that some worthy persons were so good as to say when we were down here last, that our visit was nothing but an amusement—a mere spree for the moment. Well, certainly I have a right to have my joke as well as other people; but don't you think it would turn out to be somewhat too serious a joke, to come down all this way, 200 miles, to carry it on? Besides, Gentlemen, the occasion is one with respect to which I have no great disposition to joke at all. I have, I own it, a great desire to have a seat in the Parliament; it is in your power to put me into that seat; if you do return me there as your member, I only pledge myself to you that you shall see a change take place—a change of some sort, I promise ye, and that too within a reasonable space of time. Gentlemen, I am too much exhausted at this moment to be able to tell you how delighted I am with the manner in which I have been received since my arrival in Lancashire. I have already

addressed an assemblage at Bolton, another at Chorley, and a little at this side of Chorley I had to speak to a third party—they were ladies, and I could not get away from them. I have been so much delighted—I have made so many bows (indeed a less weakened body could not have bowed so often)—I have been so pleased, but withal so tired and jaded—you too must be so fatigued, that I cannot detain you a moment longer. It is my intention to address you again—not to-morrow night, mind, but the night after; for as the Parliament will not be dissolved so soon as we at first thought, there is every probability that we shall have a fortnight yet, between this and the election. I shall be here, or at least in the neighbourhood, during that time. Just before I left London, on Saturday, I heard that the dissolution is not to take place till to-morrow (Tuesday) week. I am not sure of it—I only hear it. These Ministers do things so little in the day—they work so by saps and mine, that there is no knowing when they will dissolve the Parliament. They may do it without giving notice:—it may take place next Saturday, or not till next Saturday week. In any case, I am here amongst you, and no lawful means of success, that I can command, shall be neglected. Sir T. Beevor, who could not leave Norfolk in time to join us in London, will be with us in a few days. I repeat it, every lawful means within my power shall be resorted to by me, in order to obtain a seat in Parliament; which seat, mind you, I promise you I shall not long fill without producing some effect—without

making some change in the situation of the country, which, if I mistake not, will be greatly to your benefit. Gentlemen, on the evening of the day after to-morrow—say eight o'clock, if you will do me the honour to come and listen to me, I shall have something to communicate, which it may not be disagreeable for you to hear. I thank you for the honour you have done me, and I wish you all a good night.—(Applause.)

The immense multitude then dispersed in the most orderly manner.

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### BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

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[From the *Morning Herald*, May 27.]

Lord J. Russell said that he rose, in consequence of the notice which he had given, to propose some Resolutions, which would have for their object to punish, and thereby to prevent the growth of bribery and corruption at elections. Having on a late occasion stated his object very fully, and having also obtained leave to bring in a Bill pursuant to that statement, he could not be expected now to go into the subject. As on consideration, he found that he could not in this session make so perfect a law as he would wish, he thought it the best way to turn the substance of his Bill into Resolutions, and submit them in that shape to the consideration of the House. The Noble Lord then adverted to certain Resolutions which were agreed to in that House in 1775, respecting borough elec-

tions, and which were renewed every Session since, and were now among the sessional Resolutions of the House. Corruption and bribery at elections were now so notorious, that one Honourable Gentleman, who was for forty years a Member of that House, declared, that it was now become a common practice to pay money to the electors, not during the election, nor within the fourteen days which are now allowed for presenting petitions,—but as soon as the fourteen days expired, the money was then regularly paid. This was a notorious fact, and he called on the House to consider, that unless an end was put to this shameful practice, they should admit it as a laudable practice, and permit men to sell their votes as they would any other commodity. It was a mockery to keep on the Journals of the House orders and declarations, while the majority of the Members in the House obtained their seats by bribery. Candidates should be subject to a stricter inquiry. The Noble Lord said the following were his Resolutions, but he should, of course, conclude by moving the first:—

Resolved,—1. That whenever a petition shall be presented to this House, after the expiration of the time allowed for presenting petitions against the validity of the return of any Member of this House, by any person or persons, affirming that at any time within eighteen calendar months previous to presenting the said petition, general bribery or corruption has been practised, for the purpose of procuring the election or return of any Member or Members to serve in Parliament for any borough, cinque-port, or place, and it shall appear to the said House, that such petition contains allegations

sufficiently specific to require further investigation, a day and hour shall be appointed by the said House, for taking the said petition into consideration, so that the space of twenty days shall intervene between the day on which the said petition shall have been presented, and the day appointed by the said House for taking the same into consideration; and notice of such a day and hour shall be inserted, by order of the Speaker, in one of the two next London *Gazettes*, and shall also be sent by him to the returning officer of the borough, cinque-port, or place, to which such petition shall relate; and a true copy of such notice shall by such returning officer be affixed to the door of the town-hall, or parish-church nearest to the place where the election of Members to serve in Parliament for such borough, cinque-port, or place, has been usually held.

2. That at the hour appointed by the said House for taking such petition into consideration, the said House shall proceed to appoint a Select Committee, to inquire into the truth of the matters contained in the said petition, and report the result of their inquiry to the said House; and such Select Committee shall consist of thirteen Members, to be chosen by lot, according to the directions, provisions, rules and regulations, and subject to the exemptions for choosing forty-nine Members by lot, contained in the various Acts to regulate the trials of controverted Elections, or returns of Members to serve in Parliament, so far as they are applicable thereto, and of two other Members to be appointed by the said House, out of the Members then present in the said House; and the thirteen Members so chosen by lot, together with the two Members to be so appointed by the said House, shall be a Select Committee, and shall inquire into and try the matter of such petition, and shall report their opinion thereof, together with the evidence given before them, to the said House.

Mr. W. Wynn did not object in the slightest degree to the principle, so far as it went to the investigation of bribery and corruption at elections. It was the first duty of that House to proceed to the correction of these abuses. But, in his view it was not desirable to enter on a general inquiry, but as soon as a case of corruption was made out, then would be the time for Parliament to exercise the power which it certainly possessed. He appealed to the recollection of Honourable Members, if he had not always been an advocate for punishing instances of corruption; but he doubted whether the tribunal pointed out by the Noble Lord was best adapted to the end in view. Whenever there was any evidence of corrupt practices between the electors and the candidates, it would not be right to wait for the presenting a petition to that House. The Committee to be proposed by the Noble Lord was merely a committee of inquiry, and would have to report the evidence to the House. But the doors of that House should not be shut to petitions, although the matter of complaint was not fit for inquiry by a Committee. As to the distribution of money among the electors, it was certainly a great evil, but the better way would be to bring such a case before the House; and then, if the House thought proper, to order the parties to be prosecuted by the Attorney-General, or if it were a case of general corruption among all the electors of any town or borough, then disfranchise the parties. No doubt corruption and bribery might be practised as well by 3000 as by 30 persons. He suggested to the Noble Lord

that it would be better to postpone his Resolutions till next Session; and if in the mean time any case occurred requiring any extraordinary interference, then to move according to the circumstances. He would suggest to the Noble Lord not to press his Resolutions at present.

After a few words from Mr. W. Smith,

Lord John Russell said, that in reference to certain other modes which were pointed out to him to effect the same object, his answer to the question, why he did not assent to them was, that these modes of punishment now exist, and still corruption and bribery were carried on to the greatest extent.—(Hear.) He, therefore, thought he was not asking too much, when he called on the House to adopt the mode which he pointed out. The Noble Lord declared his determination to divide the House, and concluded by moving the Resolution.

Mr. C. Wynn moved the previous question.

The Speaker having put the Resolution from the Chair,

Mr. Peel said that, however creditable the disclaimer of corrupt practices, contained in this Resolution, might be to any Member personally, yet little was shown by the Noble Lord to convince the House that the measures therein ought to be adopted by the House. For his own part, he (Mr. P.) would be better pleased that they were postponed, as he did not wish to vote upon the merits.—(Hear.) That the motion now before the House was deserving of serious attention he was persuaded; and it was certainly worthy of consideration,



whether some distinct tribunal ought to be erected for taking cognizance of all general allegations of perjury. That question was, however, too extensive to be discussed in the last day of the Session, and it appeared that it would precipitate so important a subject by entertaining it at this particular time. He was sorry, therefore, that the Noble Lord had brought it forward, as he was not disinclined to its principle. It should be recollected that, when this subject was formerly before the House, it gave rise to long and warm debates; and, in fact, so much were opinions divided upon the expediency of Mr. Grenville's Bill, that even that obviously salutary measure was made for a limited time, though subsequently it was made permanent. Referring them to that discussion, the House could not hastily pass this Resolution, without subjecting itself to the reflection of having acted less advisedly than its predecessors. But in addition to all this, he (Mr. Peel) doubted whether the Noble Lord's objects could be obtained, except by Act of Parliament. In the aspect which the subject presented itself to his eyes, he did not think that such a measure as appointing a distinct tribunal, with power to appoint nominees for the investigation of charges for bribery, could receive sufficient effect from a Resolution of this House.—(Hear.) Under all these circumstances, he considered the subject of too grave consideration to dispose of the last day of the Session, more especially as it must necessarily bind our successors, who would be placed in an embarrassment if they did not come

to the same conclusion as we did, for it might be imputed to them that they were less interested in maintaining the purity of election.

Mr. Warre could not help thinking that his Noble Friend had been hardly dealt with by the Rt. Hon. Gent., who continually opposed the particular form in which he brought forward this subject, by suggesting another mode. Thus, when he brought forward a Bill, it was suggested that the object might be better effected by resolution, and now that he had put his motion in that shape, it was objected that he ought to have brought in a Bill. The Right Honourable Gentleman had taken another ground—namely, that this was a subject of too extensive importance to be decided upon the last day of the Session. But in fact, if he understood them, these Resolutions did not touch the principles of the Bribery Laws, their only object was to enlarge the time for receiving petitions. He asked this House, whether it was permitted that an agent publicly paying money after the election for votes had at the election, should screen himself behind the regulation, which prohibits the receiving any complaint for perjury after fourteen days?—(Hear.) It had been said, that when “You make out such a case as that of Gram-pound, the House will interfere, as it did on that occasion, and disfranchise the offending borough.” But in how few cases was it possible to establish such a case as that of Gram-pound? The peculiar corruption against which these Resolutions were intended to guard was, the distribution of money after elections, an offence

of so insidious a nature that it was scarcely possible to take cognizance of it. He hoped therefore the House would not reject these Resolutions, as until it interfered to put a check to such practices, the country would not cease to impute to it that it countenanced them.

Mr. Wynn explained his reason for opposing the adoption of these Resolutions was, that by the constitution and practice of this House, a sufficient remedy existed for all complaints of this nature. No limited time was prescribed by Act of Parliament for making complaints of bribery subsequent to elections, for the arrangement for not receiving any petitions which related to the seat of a Member after a certain time, contemplated only bribery practised antecedent to or at that election; but there was no doubt that when a case was made out to deserve particular consideration, bottomed upon the giving of money subsequent to the election of any Member, although the House would not enter upon the question with the view of setting aside such election, and depriving the Member of his seat, yet that it had rights and a jurisdiction to inquire into all such matters as concerned a breach of its privileges. It was, therefore, because of its being unnecessary, that he opposed this resolution.

Lord Milton said he admired the casuistry of the Right Hon. Gentleman, who had imagined a distinction to exist between bribery subsequent to and preceding the election of a Member of this House.—(Hear.) To his (Lord M.'s) simple mind, money given for the purpose of procuring a

vote either to buy that vote beforehand, or as a reward for it afterwards, was no other than rank bribery.—(Hear.) All bribery must, of course, have reference to the sitting Member, and how redress could be given unless by a proceeding connected with the validity or invalidity of the Member's return, he was at a loss to see. The answer, therefore, of the Right Hon. Gentleman was inconclusive, since, by his own confession, no complaint of bribery, which could by possibility compromise the return of the Member, could be received by this House after a certain time. With respect to the objection as to time, it appeared to him (Lord M.) to be precisely the fit season for bringing such a measure forward.—(Hear.) Any proceedings taken in the course of the next Session against bribery, would be complained of as coming without due notice, and in fact the offence of bribery would lose much of its bad character, if this solemn reprobation of it was not received by the House of Commons.—(Hear.)

Mr. Lockhart suggested a greater precision in the wording of this resolution. He doubted whether, under existing laws, the distribution of money after elections, was an offence punishable as bribery. He would, therefore, have the words, "and the giving of any money with reference to any previous promise," &c., added, and this denounced as a distinct offence against the Bribery Laws.

Mr. Brougham expressed his surprise, that any Hon. Member could call into question the corruption and venality of that most dangerous and reprehensible practice of distributing money after elec-

tions, although unconnected with any previous promise.—(Hear.) That the practice itself was most corrupt there could be no doubt; but it might be matter of evidence how far such distribution of money ought or ought not to affect the Member's return. He agreed entirely with the Noble Member for Yorkshire (Lord Milton) in the propriety of pressing this question to a decision now, for by adopting this resolution, the opinion of the House would be obtained in reprobation of the practice; and he had not the least doubt, that if it was carried in the affirmative with a large majority, the best practical effects would be produced on the forthcoming elections. This was the very time for bringing forward such a resolution, when the machine of corruption was as it were, making and gathering its materials, and forging its instruments for the approaching election.—(Hear.) He looked forward, therefore, to the interference of this House producing the best effects in interrupting the practices which were now going on in all quarters, and which would be developed at the election. He conjured Gentlemen, as they valued their own interests, (and in most cases private interest was a strong motive, but in none more than this,) to vote for these resolutions to-night, and thereby guard themselves against the means of corruption being used against them.

Mr. *Hume* wished to state a single fact, in answer to the fine theories of the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite. He held in his hand a letter which he had received from the electors of a certain borough, in which they stated,

that they were ready to receive proposals from any candidate who could come forward with 3,000*l.*—(Hear, hear, and laughter.) This was, and had for the last twenty-one years been their regular price; and it was to be laid out in this way, viz. 500 votes, at 5*l.*, 2,500.; and 500*l.* for expenses. When such practices were thus openly carried on, he would ask, did the House do its duty, unless it stamped upon them its strongest reprobation?—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. *Hudson Gurney* declared that he should vote for the previous question.—(Hear.) It was absurd by a simple proposition of this sort to talk of getting rid of bribery and perjury at elections.—(A laugh.) What! could it be denied that these practices did exist? *Was there a man in that House, who did not pay for his seat in money or otherwise—in meal or malt?*—(Cries of yes, yes, hear, and laughter.) Under the present state of things, it was impossible to banish corruption and bribery at elections; for he undertook to say, that there was not a Member returned for any great place, *whose election did not cause a thousand infractions of the law as at present established.* Perhaps open corruption might not be established against many Members of this House, but it was utterly impossible *that elections could be carried on without Members conniving at infractions of the law.* If bribery was not openly practised, yet it was well known that an understanding of one sort or other prevailed between the electors and elected, which no Member would venture not to recognize. All laws made hitherto for the regulation of elec-

tions, were made to meet particular circumstances of more or less glaring illegality; but the practice of corruption and bribery at elections was *as notorious as it was unnoticed in this House*.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. Alderman Wood said, that a more extraordinary discussion than this had not occurred within his recollection of the proceedings of the House.—(Hear.) The declaration just made by the Hon. Member for Newton (Mr. Gurney), that the only road to this House was by the purchase of votes, might be true so far as that Honourable Member was personally concerned, but was most certainly untrue if intended for universal application.—(Hear, hear.) To the statement of the Hon. Member that no Member of that House obtained his seat without paying for it in meal or malt, by some treaty or understanding, he (Mr. Alderman Wood) would tell him that he was one who never spent a shilling in obtaining his seat, and had not paid even for a hackney coach, although he had been three times returned for the City of London.—(Hear.) He had received various letters from electors of London, living at Boston, Lincoln, and other places, desiring to know whether he would pay their expenses to the place of election, but his answer invariably was, that it was not his custom to expend any money, not even to pay for a bowl of punch (an expense which the Hon. Member would perhaps well understand.) The statement of the Hon. Member, if true, redounded in no great degree to the credit of his constituents, whose price, by his account, was very high!—(Laugh-

ter.) He, (Mr. Alderman W.) would, however, repeat, that as candidate for the City of London, he had never been put to any expense, except advertisements, rent of a committee-room, and a few other necessary expenses. He found it necessary to say thus much on behalf of his constituents, for it was not fair to the electors of England, that there were no other Members in this House but the representatives of corrupt boroughs!—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. Sergeant Onslow expressed his surprise that the Hon. Member for Newton could have been betrayed into such a statement.

Sir Robert Wilson observed that when the Hon. Member for Newton made that sweeping denunciation, he could not have been acquainted with the sentiments or practice of the borough of Southwark. He (Sir Robert), had had the honour to be twice returned for that borough, and he pledged himself that he had not paid for that distinction in meal, and he was sure his Hon. colleague (Mr. C. Calvert, the brewer), had not paid for it "in malt!" however proper such a mode of remuneration might be to him.—(Laughter.) He, (Sir Robert), assured the House that he had not laid out a shilling, directly or indirectly for his seat, but that on the contrary, he had been invited to come forward, and neither agent or friend of his had done anything to infringe the bribery or any other laws. It was due to his constituents to make this declaration, and he was sure if the Hon. Members for Westminster were present, they would say the same. With respect to the resolution before the House, he should say,

that Members would not be doing their duty, if they did not, by an overwhelming majority reprobate the corrupt practices admitted to prevail at some elections; and thereby show their disposition honestly to endeavour to put a stop to such practices.

Sir *Matthew W. Ridley* said he had no wish to prolong this discussion, and he would therefore make a suggestion which might materially shorten it. The suggestion was this—that instead of Members individually delivering their sentiments upon this question, they would be content to give a practical illustration of them by their votes. This was the course which he intended to pursue, and he hoped he should have a large majority with him.

General *Gascoyne* said he could not help saying a word on this subject, notwithstanding the Hon. Bart.'s suggestion to postpone all declarations to the division of the House. The imputation thrown out by the Hon. Member for Newton, affected the electors, as well as the elected. Now in defence of his constituents, he should say that he had been six times returned for Liverpool, without paying for the honour, either "in rael or malt."

Mr. *Fyshe Palmer*—I would recommend the Hon. Member for Newton to attend the next meeting of the *Snowball Club* at Reading. (A loud laugh). It has been held every Tuesday for the last three months, and will hold another meeting on Tuesday next. If on that day the Hon. Member will do us the favour to give us his company, we shall be happy to give him a lesson on the purity of election, and how Members have

been returned from that place for the last two Parliaments.—(Laughter.) I am sure that if the Hon. Member attended that Meeting he would alter his opinion as to the state of elections in this country.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. *T. Wilson* undertook to say that such things as bribery and corruption were not understood in the city of London; although, perhaps, these electors might, by possibility, be brought under the operation of existing laws by some acts of indiscretion. In fact, so undefined and extensive were the terms of the Bribery Laws, that it would be difficult to say what species of election would be entirely free from an imputation of corruption in the sense of these laws.

Lord *John Russell*, in reply, returned thanks to the Hon. Member for Newton for the support which he had (perhaps unconsciously) given his motion. What argument could be adduced in its favour stronger than that advanced by the Hon. Member, that the practices of corruption and bribery were so extensive as to be almost universal. It was to be wished that the Hon. Member had attended the last meeting of the Westminster electors, and he would find that there were at least some Members in this House who had been sent here to represent the true wishes and interests of his constituents; and that, therefore, they had not been sent here from the motives insinuated. With respect to the lateness of the period at which these resolutions were brought forward, it should not be forgotten that he had had a Bill for these purposes before the House the greater part of the Session. He

hoped that, as the Right Hon. Gentleman's (Mr. Peel) attention had been called to the subject, he would apply himself to it next Session. He (Lord J.) did not mean to say that his resolutions would not admit of great improvements, but it was of the utmost importance that the practice of selling votes at five or ten guineas a piece should be put a stop to. It was not, however, so much for the terms of the resolution that he pressed to a division, but in order to obtain a sense of reprobation of a reprehensible question from this House.

Mr. Gurney wished to be permitted to say a word in explanation of what had been so much animadverted upon: In stating that there was no election free from the charges of corruption and bribery, he did not mean to pledge himself so much to their actual existence, as to their constructive existence, under the interpretation of the Bribery Laws. In fact, as the laws stood now, no one knew what was or was not bribery.

Mr. Grenfell said he could put his hand to his heart, and declare that he had never resorted to any means of getting into this House of which he could possibly be ashamed. However, as he was told that practices did exist at elections, which ought to be reprobated, he thought it his duty, as a Member of this House, to express his disapprobation of them by supporting this resolution.

The House then divided:—

For the original motion 62  
Against it . . . . . 62

The number being equal, the Speaker gave his casting voice for the motion. The Resolutions were therefore carried, and on

our return to the Gallery, we found the Speaker, reading the Resolutions. On the second being read—

Mr. Wynn said he did not rise to oppose the Resolution, but he thought a more convenient mode to effect its object than the one suggested might be adopted.

Mr. Brougham hoped the declaration of the House, as now expressed by its vote, would make a true impression upon the country, proving, as it did, that, as far as the opinion of the House of Commons went, it was its determination to unite heart and hand with the people in taking some vigorous and effective measure for punishing such practices as those now complained of.

The Resolutions were then agreed to.

## DINNER

OF THE

### ELECTORS OF WESTMINSTER.

[From the Morning Herald, May 26.]

YESTERDAY, (25th) the Electors of Westminster had their nineteenth Anniversary Dinner, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Sir Francis Burdett in the Chair, supported on his right by Mr. Hobhouse, and on his left by Lord Ebrington.

Among the company were also Lord Nugent, M.P.; Mr. T. Coke, M.P.; Mr. Hume, M.P.; Mr. Maurice Fitzgerald, M.P.; Mr. S. Whitbread, M.P.; Mr. Douglas Kinnaird; Mr. Denman, M.P.; Mr. Alderman Waithman; and several other popular public characters.

The cloth having been removed, the first toast given was—

“The people!—the only source of legitimate power.” Tune, Britons, strike home!

The second was—

“The King!—May he always recollect his own declaration ‘that the Crown is held in trust for the benefit of the people!’”—(Drank with three times three.)—Tune, Rule, Britannia.

The third toast was—

“A full, fair, and free representation of the people in the Commons’ House of Parliament; the only efficient remedy for all our national grievances.”—(Three times three.)—Tune, Kick the rogues out.

The next toast was—

“The Parliamentary Electors of the United Kingdom; and may they recollect that the people of England look with anxiety for the honest exercise of their suffrages, by which alone a new Parliament can be created, worthy of public confidence and esteem.”—(Three times three.)—Tune, Hope told a flattering tale!

Mr. STURCH rose to propose the next toast. He felt the greatest pleasure in attending this day—the anniversary of their glorious triumph over corruption and undue influence—to propose a toast, which was confided to his care by the Committee, and which, he was perfectly sure, needed no recommendation of his to make it acceptable to the company, because, to his certain knowledge, it was given in that room, not always perhaps in the same form of words, although in the same substance, for the last eighteen or nineteen years, and it was always received with most enthusiastic

expressions of approbation.—(Applause.) It was really a most remarkable fact, that so numerous and so mixed a body as the Electors of the City of Westminster should so long persevere in attachment—so steady and so constantly increasing, for a period of now nineteen years—for their representative, the subject of his toast—(applause), especially when it was well known that he was not one of those servile men who have a seat in the House of Commons merely because they serve the Ministers. This attachment was not to be accounted for on the grounds of undue influence.—No; the reason was this, that there existed in the minds of the constituents a conviction, that their representative was honest, was pure, and upright—(loud applause); that his public views and conduct were directed not to his private interest (applause), no matter whether those views were in the opinion of others right or wrong, but to whatever he, in the best of his judgment, believed to be essential to the public welfare.—(Loud applause.) The constituents and the representative had that feeling in common, that the public liberty could not be preserved but by a free Parliament and frequent elections.—(Applause.) But he had to remember that he did not rise to make a speech, but to propose a toast. He could not, however, but congratulate the company, his fellow electors, that they had not only one, but two free and incorrupt representatives in Parliament.—(Applause.) It was not the lot of many people in this country to be so happy; most of them were obliged to return to Parliament

persons whom they did not like—whom, perhaps, they did not know—(Applause.) But that was not the case with the people of Westminster: they had in Parliament two men, honest, upright, and free, and, what was not of less consideration, of the first-rate talents; two men far above all selfish views, above all servile independence; two men who conscientiously held, and most fearlessly professed the purest political principles; two men who were returned to Parliament by the free, the unbought votes of their constituents, the electors of Westminster.—(Loud applause.) He then gave—

“The great advocate of the rights and liberties of the people, whose able, disinterested, and consistent public conduct, has been as useful to his countrymen as honourable to himself—our distinguished representative, Sir Francis Burdett.”—(Loud and continued applause.)

The toast was drank with three times three.

Sir Francis Burdett got up on the table, not without some pain. He appeared to labour under the gout; and he supported himself with a stick in his left hand. He had, he said, the support of only one leg, but our Constitution was lame in more than one point.—(A laugh.) He was happy in thus annually meeting his constituents, because he always looked with pride and with satisfaction to the first moment of their connexion with each other as electors and representative.—(Applause.) He looked to it with extreme pleasure, as it was an example of independence and purity of election, held out to all the people of Eng-

land; and it was a proof to those who were hostile to the liberties of the people, that the spirit of freedom was not yet entirely extinct in this country. The enemies of free Parliaments threw out doubts of that perseverance in the great cause of freedom, and of that consistency, both of which are so well exemplified by the electors of Westminster.—(Applause.) To the period of his connexion with his constituents he looked with the more pleasure, because it stopped the tongue of licentious calumny and abuse which were levelled at them, and all those who laboured in the same cause. This was the point of view in which he looked on his first connexion with them with satisfaction. It was in that view that he looked on radical reform, for he would use that phrase, notwithstanding the discredit which some persons would affect to bring on it. Popular elections, say those enemies of reform, are nothing else than persecutions of the more substantial part of the community—degrading to those who exercised them—both detrimental to the prosperity, and dangerous to the peace of the country. Now here, in the conduct of the electors of Westminster, was an argument always at hand to rebut and refute all those aspersions. His respectable friend, Mr. Sturch, said that few electors in this country followed the example which was so obviously held forth to them by the electors of Westminster. That this example should be followed over the country was a wish implied by the toast which was proposed by his respected Friend. It was because they were free electors that

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they wished to extend the freedom and the purity of elections. Their desire to hold forth this example to the country was because the House of Commons was now overwhelmed by a scum, such as was never found on the earth—because so little of the public voice of the people, by any exertions of public virtue, could be got in at all—it was because there were so few men of that description in the House of Commons—as few as there were in Sodom, where a few would have saved it from destruction. It was because there could not be found in that House so many as would save it from the fate which befel that guilty community. These were the reasons why it was desirable to hold forth an example to the country. But there was scarcely any possibility of any other class in the kingdom holding out a similar example; so that it would be a great benefit if all the elections were done away with; for the whole system of mock elections exhibited such a course of depravity, of corruption, and of mischievous principles—it was such a system altogether as could not have operation in any other country on the face of the globe.—(Applause.) In the midst of this vile inundation of corruption, there flowed a direct stream of liberty in the English Constitution, to which it was as it were the inheritance of the electors of Westminster to succeed. He maintained that it was impossible to attain to that end, but by that pure and unadulterable principle of freedom, which, notwithstanding the tyranny and the oppression exercised over the people for years, it was the lot of his constituents to

preserve. That was the principle which, if any, would bring salvation to the country. This illustrious example of the electors of Westminster, encouraged his best hopes that the principle would be extended—at least it kept away all feelings of despair. They were not, therefore, now to relax in their efforts, but it was imperative on them to persevere in, and redouble their exertions. This conduct of the electors of Westminster gave him hopes of final success in the cause of freedom, much sooner than he could otherwise expect—at all events, labour in vain in so good a cause was much better than absolute success in the opposite cause.—(Applause.) It was a pleasure to him to meet a body of respectable electors; but it was the greatest pleasure to him to meet a sample, an honest sample of electors, who, in dangerous and embarrassing times, persevered in maintaining the freedom and purity of election. But he never saw the electors of Westminster retrograding in the assertion, and maintenance of those pure principles. They were not like the sham electors that abounded in all parts of the country.—They were a fair sample of the old people of this country.—(Applause.) Now the example of the electors of Westminster demonstrated most clearly that the people of this country deserved liberty, and knew how to use it when it was intrusted to them. It was in this free, unbiassed, uncontrolled exercise of their liberty, that they contemplated with the greatest pleasure his connexion with the electors of Westminster. This connexion was begun and continued without any trick or eva-

sion on either side. On the many subjects, both religious and political, in which most men differed, he exerted himself fairly and to the utmost of his power, relying on his own integrity.—(Applause.) The conduct of the electors of Westminster has proved that it required only fair dealing on the part of the representatives to meet the support and approval of their countrymen. He took that public opportunity of adverting, among other matters, to the letter written to him by his worthy friend Mr. Sturch on the part of the electors of Westminster, relating to the situation of the people of Ireland, and for which he sincerely thanked his worthy friend. In one part of that letter, Mr. Sturch alluded to the part which he (Sir F. Burdett) had taken, in presenting to the House of Commons a petition from a large portion of their fellow-subjects, the Catholics of Ireland. He said, that in presenting it he was not an advocate for that particular form of religion. All religions, he believed, were good. When he said that all religions were good, it was not to be supposed that he meant that those barbarous practices prevalent in savage islands, alike repugnant to God and man, were good. But when he said that all religions were good, he meant all sects of the Christian religion.—(Applause.) He said that all those religions were good, because they had one foundation for them all.—(Applause.) It was in vain to say this man's or that man's religion was bad, unless it was found connected with some bad practices. But if a man himself did not believe his religion to be good, that was no religion at

all. He did not believe that any man was so bad as knowingly to worship evil. At all events, no religion of a man, however vain and deplorable, could prevent him (Sir F. Burdett) from asserting and advocating the cause of truth. Therefore it was that he did what he was called on to do in presenting the petitions of their fellow-subjects, and what he would do again and again, if called on, be the risks and the consequences to himself what they may.—(Loud applause.) It is fit that we love one another, but not that one man should prescribe what mode of worship another should adopt. Could any man say that he himself would be hereafter rewarded for his particular mode of worship; but another would not? No man should foster such prejudices.—(Applause.) But when he daily saw those persons, who chiefly fostered such prejudices, making religion only as a mask, he could not help thinking that they used religion only to serve their interest.—(Applause.) He could not believe, however, that any honest mind could come to these unjust conclusions. But with respect to this grand question of reform, it showed itself in every way, and connected itself with all subjects. It was now intended, it seemed, to apply the principle of reform to those legal proceedings, those monstrous proceedings in the Court of Chancery.—(Laughing.) The upshot of the whole of this reform, was that Lord Eldon was a very Daniel in giving judgments. Lord Eldon did more than Daniel; for Daniel passed judgments with some risk to himself, but Lord Eldon gave judgment to the risk and to the peril

of suitors.—(A laugh.) But it was said in extenuation, that his Lordship was particularly cautious lest he might do injustice, and therefore, he required much time for deliberation. It would be far better for suitors to be stopped short even by an unjust decision, than in seeking for justice to find his or their utter ruin. He would say that prompt injustice was better than that dilatory process which could never come to any determination. — (Applause.) — But after the defence of this monstrous system for years, shame at length cried out, and then redress was ready to step in. But after all, the result of all this was that no one was to blame, no one was culpable, and the person who was generally supposed to be the most guilty was found to surpass all others, not only in the dimensions, but in all the ordinary forms of human virtue. He saw in the Lord Chancellor the most extraordinary virtues of patience and perseverance—virtues with which not only the Noble Lord himself was endued, but with which he also possessed the rare faculty of enduing others.—(A loud laugh.) There was in his Lordship a degree of resignation and piety, such as could not be found in any other man. His Lordship might sit for the picture given in the words of the poet, guiding the genius of the sculptor. How well would it be if the genius of the one could be applied for the guidance of the other, and thus a monument of his Lordship's patience be transmitted to posterity. He should like to suggest to Mr. Chantrey, whom he had the pleasure of knowing, the words of the poet—not that trite description of "patience sit-

ting on a monument," but this—

Here Patience sits,  
Her white arms folded in her bosom,  
With meek submission she lifts the adoring eye,  
Even to the storm that wrecks her.

All this would be a good subject for the sculptor, except the eye, which is directed to the suitor. But now, after many years of bold defence, his Lordship himself, and his friends came forward, and showed what a vile and monstrous figure they were worshiping in the place of justice—one vile source of corruption, full of various evils. What must that system be when the Secretary for the Home Department rose and made a statement in his place, of all the evils of the system, and endeavoured—honourably endeavoured—to put an end to it. But see what was the state of things in that system which the country has so long suffered, and in the operation of which so many have perished? It was to a reform in the House of Commons that they were to look for a cure of all those evils. Let them look to that unhappy place called Ireland, where peace and prosperity could never be found, but where there was nothing but poverty and gnashing of teeth, and indignation among the different portions of the inhabitants from time to time, that it was a disgrace to any government to suffer it to be oppressed with so much injustice. But this could not be the case, had it not been for that corrupt system of election which so generally prevailed. Were it not for that, Ireland could not remain as she then was, a source of care and anxiety, and never-ending expense, instead of being an additional source of prosperity to this country. In Scotland there is

some reason to complain of that corrupt system of parliamentary representation, which was so fully detailed in the well-drawn petition from the city of Edinburgh, presented to the House of Commons by the Hon. Member for Calne (Mr. Abercromby), and to which the House ought to have acceded, if it was not meant to continue for ever that corrupt system. By reform, order and regularity would soon be brought about; all the diseases of the country would cease at once, and health and vigour would be diffused through the vital organs. Again, the preventive system, was that working well? That subject was well handled in the House of Commons by his Hon. Colleague. He (Sir F. Burdett) then thought he saw a blush on some countenances that never blushed before in the House, unless when losing some job or another.—(Applause.) He then thought that body not yet insensible to shame, but the blush was transitory. Here was the result of a divided administration. The two parts did not make the whole like two and two making four: it was like the progeny engendered between the ass and horse, not a mixture of equable ingredients, like those in a bowl of punch. See their conduct on those two great questions, the Corn Laws and the Currency. On this latter, Ministers denounced the paper currency, to which they ascribed all the distresses of the country. They resolved to have no more issues of paper. All was to be gold. Yet in three or four days these Ministers again came down to the House, and resolved again on the issue of these notes, to which a little time before

they ascribed the miseries of the nation. Again, being asked not to make any change in the currency of Ireland or Scotland, the Minister said, "Oh, no! I would rather die, than give up half my plan." Yet see what followed. Now what reliance can the people have on the measures of such Ministers, who one day call on Parliament to stultify itself, by assenting to their propositions, saying aye or no, as the Minister directed? What they resolve to day, they undo to-morrow. The same way they acted in respect to the Corn Laws—a question he would not say of great difficulty, but one requiring great consideration, and an immediate settlement of it.—(Applause.) Ministers said one day that they would not consent this Session to any discussion on the alteration of the Corn Laws, yet they came a few days after, and, without any discussion, they altered those laws, but yet left the general question in the same state of ambiguity. Of such an administration it was difficult to know what to say. It could not be said how long they would support their own consistency. It would be good for the people if they had an Administration that would come forward when their mind was made up. The conduct of this Administration he could compare to nothing but to the well-known witness called *Non mi ricordo*, on the trial of the late Queen. Ministers being asked whether they would go to a repeal of the Corn Laws? "Oh! no;" the Government replied. Then another class of Members asked if they would not relieve the starving people? "Oh! yes," said

Ministers; "We will repeal the Corn Laws, and we will bring to market the bonded corn." Having got the House to assent to the proposition, Ministers then said they did not mean to make any alteration in the Corn Laws. They did not remember proposing to alter them. *Non mi ricordo—piu si, che non.*—(A laugh.) Such was the conduct of Ministers on this most important subject. He maintained that it was a shame for Parliament to have met, and not to have done something on these questions, particularly the currency, which was the source of all the distresses in the country, and all these brought on by bad legislation alone.—(Applause.) If all these evils be agreeable to the people, then he despaired of Parliamentary Reform; but as he held a different opinion of the minds of the people, he hoped Government would be *compelled to put an end to this system*, which had now so long prevailed.

Mr. COKE proposed the next toast. It related to the other Representative of this City. Of the public conduct of that Gentleman he should only say, that if the electors were not already acquainted with it, it was not in his (Mr. C.'s) power to do him justice. Allusion had been made to a speech spoken by that Gentleman, upon the occasion of Lord John Russell's motion for Reform. He (Mr. C.) was not present in the House at the time, though he had come expressly to town to vote upon the question, which he considered, in fact, the only great constitutional one agitated during the Session. He had seen, however, a report of that speech, of which the reception of one pas-

sage struck him as singular. The Honourable Member was reported to have said, that "he wished to see the wedge get in;" a sentiment which was cheered by Ministers. But what was there in it objectionable? He (Mr. Coke) *wished to see the wedge get in*; and he would assure them that, if the point was once entered, and that the mallet was placed in *his hand*, he would assuredly *drive it home*.—(Loud laughter.) He concluded by proposing "The health of John Cam Hobhouse, Esq., our other able, enlightened, and indefatigable Representative."

Mr. HOBHOUSE mounted the table and returned thanks, amid lively acclamation. It was to him, he said, no source of ordinary satisfaction, that, at the close of his Parliamentary career he now experienced the same kindness as when he first commenced it. He still saw around him many of the same smiling faces—he still felt the same support—the same disposition to give him confidence—as when eight years ago, he first ventured to solicit their notice.—(Cheers.) This was to him a great satisfaction, but he felt it less on his own account, than as it proved that the public spirit which first gave him importance was still unstuffed and unsubdued. Such was, as such ought to be, the reward of men, whose only security was their pledge, and whose only return was the fulfilment of that undertaking. Those present were his judges—into their hands he was about to surrender his trust—and of them it was that he was to ask "whether he had done his duty?"—(Applause.) He shrunk

not from a reply; and such circumstances he was pleased to recollect in the origin of his connexion with the citizens of Westminster. He could see no objection to the renewal of the bond between the electors and elected upon these occasions. He would now come to the more immediate relation in which he stood to those he was addressing. Not, however, that though he was arrived at the close of his Parliamentary career, he meant at all to canvass. Such a course would be unworthy of those he addressed, and unworthy of himself. Under any circumstances it must be a source of gratification to him to meet the electors of Westminster, who had chosen not him, who was unknown to them, but who had chosen his colleague, who was not only known to them, but to Europe at large, and the whole civilized world. He was glad also to see many individuals of known public worth present here, and co-operating in the grand object which they all had in view. The first of these was his Honourable Friend the Member for Norfolk (Mr. Coke), if that Honourable Member would permit him to call him his friend, *and a great honour it was*. He (Mr. H.) would not now refer to what that Honourable Member had done him the favour to say of him, but content himself with saying, that he hoped to be able hereafter to justify all that had been said of him. Many other individuals were present, of great consideration amongst their fellow citizens. Amongst those was to be distinguished a character for which England always had, and he hoped always would be

famed — he meant *an honest Judge (Mr. Denman)*. This gentleman, by the honest exercise of public principle, had found his way to a seat, where he made himself useful to his countrymen, by his pure and impartial administration of justice. He saw, likewise, a gentleman present, who represented the constituency and public spirit of the City of London (*Mr. Alderman Walthman*.) Seeing so many good and true men assembled upon this occasion, he could not persuade himself that the light of public spirit was becoming dim. It had been said, that, in the life of man, there were certain climacterics; at each of which his moral powers assumed a new one. It was said, that every seven years a man's powers became weakened. He could not say that he had not felt the influence of time; but there was one sentiment which, as he grew older, instead of growing weaker became stronger—that was *his attachment to their old and faithful representative Sir Francis Burdett* — (Cheers.) The more he saw of the House to which they had sent him, the more he acknowledged to himself the propriety of the choice which the electors of Westminster had made, by sending such a man as the Hon. Baronet to Parliament. — From the characters of some of the Members of a certain Honourable House, he would now proceed to the actions of that House itself. This topic had been already ably adverted to, and he should therefore touch it lightly. About this time last year, by the report of Ministers in that House, the country was in a most un-

comfortable, a positively embarrassing, state of prosperity. We had so much wealth that we did not know what to do with it, and the difficulty was, not what we should do with our last, but our first guinea — (Laughter.) We are told of a Roman Emperor, who, wishing to wallow in gold, was rather puzzled as to how he should accomplish that. A bed of gold, however rich, was not very soft; but he adopted this expedient. He had his bed removed every night into a different room, the floors of which were all gold. So it was with us. Every body seemed so full of gold, that Ministers set about erecting new rooms for different nights to sleep in. The evil day came, however, about. Things were now much altered. Instead of the golden harvest which danced before our eyes, nothing was now left but vague recollections of surprise at our past affluence. As Foote said of Garrick, that "he never went round a corner without meeting the ghost of a departed guinea," so every thing now reminded us of what we were. We no longer feel the embarrassment of last session, yet for all these changes we ought to have been prepared. He (Mr. H.) his Hon. Colleague (Sir F. B.) and many others, had given warning of them. Of those it would be injustice to omit the name of a worthy Alderman, who he was so glad to see a candidate for the City of London (Mr. Ald. Waithman), who, through a long public life, faithfully redeemed the pledges which he had given—(Hear.) He rejoiced that such merit did not run the risk of being forgotten—that so many of the citizens of

London seemed aware of the claims of the man of their original choice.—(Applause.) He regretted that in alluding to the measures of Parliament, he could not describe any acts which had relation to an improved state of the country. Some public measures had been taken during the Session, to which he, by his vote, had made himself a party. He had not, however, supported those measures because they happened to be brought in by Ministers. Conceiving them to be good in themselves, he had supported those measures without reference to the source from which they emanated.—(Applause.) He was likewise sorry that, since they last met he could not congratulate them upon the successful efforts of the friends of freedom in other countries. Disheartening, however, as these prospects were, still he did not despair. And yet the past was but ill calculated to give good presage of the future. In how many instances had the strugglers of freedom been suppressed, even within his own memory? What glorious hopes had been blighted by the failure of the French Revolution? In the present condition of that powerful but hapless country was to be found the best proof of what he had been saying. Let them look to Italy—that fairest portion of the civilized world. How had liberty fared there? The only sounds which freedom uttered were to be heard from the dungeons on the bank of the Elbe, the fortresses on the Rhine, and the mountains of the Danube. The only crime of those immured in those dungeons was their attachment to freedom. The next

place to which he called their attention was that country which seemed gifted only to invite the intrusions of foreign power, but which was endeared to us by a community in arms—he meant Spain. There the exertions of the friends of freedom had failed, not only in securing to themselves the blessings of a domestic government, but also in saving themselves from a foreign invader. Spain now wept—*sunk under the lowest of all despotism,—not that of a domestic tyrant, but of a foreign invader.* He was sorry to say, that though like St. Stephen we did not throw the first stone at Spain, yet we stood by consenting to her death.—(Applause.) The last was a place—the spot of all others in Europe—endeared to us not only as Englishmen and Christians, but as persons interested in the cause of humanity. It was a place to which we ought to address our last hopes and best aspirations, as the place where, one of our poets had said, was the last altar where “*the torch of liberty was finally to be placed*”—*that place was Greece*—as he was sure his hearers had anticipated. He was sure it was unnecessary to excite the sympathy of this Meeting,—but if necessary he could urge topics calculated strongly to interest their good wishes for that unfortunate country. The Hon. Member for Montrose (Mr. Hume) had visited Greece, and to him he appealed, whether there was not every thing in the situation of that country to call for the protection of this against the infernal blow which had been struck against it. It was fit that he (Mr. Hobhouse) who had visited these countries

early in life, should be their advocate at the bar of a powerful protecting tribunal. It should be recollected that this was not a contest carried on in the usual way between two rival nations—that it was not a struggle between two Christian states, as to which should occupy this or that frontier or fortress; but it was a question whether the fairest portion of the globe was or was not to be trampled upon by a country, which, as it did not understand, so it could have no regard for the liberties of a people. He was himself a witness to many of the barbarities which the great powers of Europe, much to their shame, permitted to be exercised towards the Greeks. And these oppressors, be it recollected, were Mahometans, with whom we had nothing in common, either in feelings or manners. There was not between us a single tie of sympathy which could, in any degree, sanction our being accomplices to such misrule. The Turks were now as ferocious as when they first conquered the Christian empire. Although they had lost many of the qualities which made them a match for their Christian adversaries, still they practised all the refinements of cruelty. He knew it as a fact, and he challenged any one to deny it, whether, when any one offended them, the Turks did not roast alive, impale, and even beat them to death with mallets. This they did in the present contest. And even when they meant to deal mercifully towards those who offended them, they drowned, strangled and beheaded their wives and children. He should not disgust them by reciting further particulars, but it was enough to say,



that their vices were not those of men, but of savages. Under such circumstances, then, he would ask, *whether it ought not to be the policy of this Government to interfere?* He contended that every man and every nation, interested in the cause of humanity, were bound to put a stop to cruelties, at which human nature shuddered. It was for the interests of this country that Greece should be free.—(Applause.) This he stated advisedly, and if he were not afraid of being tedious, he should prove incontestibly, that she soon would be free. It was well known that the dynasty of Constantinople was tottering to its base, and that the only circumstance which retarded its final demolition was, that the great powers of Europe were not agreed as to a division of the spoils.—(Hear.) They were therefore jealous of the insurrection of the Greeks, lest such an event should prematurely accelerate an event for which they were unprepared. Therefore it was, that they did not like to see the Greeks in arms—therefore that they issued their proclamations against that oppressed people, even to the head of the Christian Church upon the Continent—the Pope. But he would ask, had Heaven given power to this Prince to assist the enemies of Christianity, or whether the chief bearer of the banner of the Cross was to place that alongside the crescent of Mahomet?—(Cheers.) Much had been said and done to encourage the sending of Missions, in order to disseminate the doctrines of Christianity. But when did an opportunity occur, when there was so great a temptation, not

only to bring over persons to Christianity, but absolutely to save them from becoming Turks? And persons, too, so anxious to be supported in their religious tenets as the Greeks were—never was so glorious an opportunity. He did not mean now unnecessarily to eulogize the Right Hon. Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Canning), as that Gentleman did not need his eulogy. But if he might be permitted to make a suggestion to him, it would be, that this was a glorious opportunity for crowning his high fame by accomplishing this great and last emancipation of a Christian people. The policy of this could not be doubtful. He had himself already broached the principle, by declaring “that wherever the standard of freedom was raised, there would Englishmen crowd around it.”—(Applause.) There seemed something providential too in this contest occurring at this time, as if it was just to give the Right Hon. Gent. an opportunity of adding another laurel to his wreath, by putting a finishing hand to it. When it was recollected that at the moment the vessel was absolutely about to sail, which was to convey him into a sort of honourable exile, his great rival quitted the scene in an unexpected manner, and that he suddenly, but fairly, came into the possession of power. It would seem to be the work of Providence, in providing him for so great an occasion. To do him justice, that Right Hon. Gentleman had already most materially altered the policy of this country. Instead of being, as she had been in the time of his predecessor, a party to the Holy Al-

hance, the Right Hon. Gentleman had sent across the Atlantic, Commissioners to treat with the Spanish colonies of South America upon the footing of independent states. He hoped then the Right Hon. Gent. would be induced to put his hand to the affairs of Greece, of the ultimate termination of which he (Mr. H.) still augured well, from the desperate and glorious resistance which they had made to the tyranny of their savage opponents. — (Applause.) He concluded by giving—

“The brave and suffering people of Greece, whose persevering valour in asserting their independence, not only rendered them worthy of their ancestors, but entitled them to the support of every civilized power.”

Drank with three times three.

The next toast was—

“S. C. Whitbread, Esq., and the *Reformers of Middlesex*.”

The CHAIRMAN then proposed

The health of the *oldest Reformer*, T. W. Coke, Esq., and the *Reformers of Norfolk*.”

Three times three, with great applause.

Mr. Coke returned thanks for the very kind and handsome manner in which his name had been coupled with the Reformers of Norfolk. No man could speak more accurately to what these Reformers were, and he pledged himself that they were attached to the great cause. — (Cheers.) He accepted with gratitude the title of “oldest Reformer,” to which he believed he had a good claim, for he had been in Parliament *fifty years*, and he was a reformer from the beginning. — (Loud cheers.) The history of what he

had seen in that time might be compressed in a few words—if he had known as much of the Honourable House as he now did, and had for many years, he would never have set his foot in it. — (Laughter.) At no time had he a great desire to be a Member of Parliament, for he had other pursuits to engage him, and it was only in obedience to the friends of freedom, and the Whigs in Norfolk, that he had accepted the charge. No sooner, however, was he in the House, than he placed himself under the tuition of their late representative, Mr. Fox, and to him he stuck like a leech—through good report and bad report. From the principles professed by that great man, (he Mr. Coke) never swerved, and never would, for however little his taste lay towards the House of Commons, yet as long as the good people of Norfolk thought fit to return him to Parliament, so long would he do every thing in his power to discharge the trust to the best of his ability. — (Loud cheers.) To be a representative of the people appeared to him to transcend any honour which the Sovereign could bestow upon him, and he spoke seriously, when he assured this Meeting that he would not barter the unbought representation of such a county as Norfolk for any advantages which might be offered him. He sincerely congratulated this city upon having chosen two such Representatives—men so distinguished for their abilities, honesty, and integrity. They were, in truth, men of extraordinary talents, and it was not always that electors were fortunate enough to find principle accompanied by talent. An hon-

est Representative in these days was by no means common.—(Hear, and laughter.) He was a man who had used plain language all his life. He would not again offer himself for Norfolk, but that his absence might create an opportunity for a less candid or *straight-forward Radical than himself*.—(Cheers.) In conclusion, he declared that so long as God spared his life, he should vote on the side of liberty and independence, and that he would come to dine with the present company as often as they did him the honour to invite him.—(Loud cheers.)

“Mr. Alderman Waithman, and the Independence of the City of London.”

MR. ALDERMAN WALTHMAN, in returning thanks, said, that the best return which perhaps he could make was, by stating that it was to the principle which actuated this Meeting that he looked forward to the success of his appeal to the citizens of London. He had no claim upon his fellow-citizens but that of principle, and he was sure to be opposed by influence of a powerful kind. His success would be, therefore, a triumph for the cause in which *all reformers* were engaged.—From all that he had observed, he had strong hopes that the exertions which his friends were kind enough to make in his behalf would be crowned with success.—(Applause.)

“JOSEPH HUME, Esq., and thanks to him for his persevering and successful efforts in watching every branch of the public expenditure, which must ultimately produce such a reduction of taxes

as can alone terminate the general distress of the country.

MR. HUME, in returning thanks, said no compliment to his poor services in the public cause could be so gratifying as that which came from the most numerous and respectable body of reformers in the kingdom. He hoped that the example of Westminster would be a stimulus to the country at large. His ideas of reform were, that every householder should have a vote, and that the suffrages should be taken by ballot as the most impartial way. He then alluded to the claims of Mr. Alderman Wood upon the citizens of London. He did not know why his Hon. Friend was not now present, as he had never known him absent from any anniversary of the kind, and in all discussions upon reform and retrenchment in the House of Commons, he was at his post late and early.—(Loud cheers.)—He hoped justice would be done him, and the worthy Alderman present, in the approaching contest. He concluded by proposing—

“The health of Mr. Alderman Wood.”—

Which was drunk with applause.

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, who had been suffering from gout the whole evening, now left the Chair, which was taken by Lord EBRINGTON.

“The health of Lord Nugent” was then proposed; and his Lordship, in suitable terms, returned thanks.

Other toasts were subsequently proposed; and the hilarity of the evening was extended to a late hour.

THE  
LORDS COMMISSIONERS'  
SPEECH,

May 31, 1826.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

His Majesty commands us to inform you that the state of the public business enabling His Majesty to close the Session at a period of the year the most convenient for a General Election, it is His Majesty's intention to dissolve, without delay, the present Parliament, and to direct the issue of writs for the calling of a new one.

His Majesty cannot take leave of you without commanding us to express His Majesty's deep sense of the zeal and public spirit which you have constantly displayed in the discharge of your several important functions.

His Majesty particularly acknowledges the promptitude and discretion with which you have applied yourselves to the objects specially recommended to you by His Majesty, at the commencement of this Session; and His Majesty confidently hopes that the good effect of your deliberations will be manifested in the improved stability of public & private credit.

His Majesty has the satisfaction to inform you that the distinguished skill, bravery, and success, with which the operations of the British arms in the dominions of the King of Ava have been carried on, have led to the signature, upon highly honourable terms, of a preliminary Treaty with that Sovereign, which His Majesty has every reason to expect will be the foundation of a secure and permanent peace.

His Majesty further commands us to repeat to you, that His Ma-

jesty's earnest endeavours have continued to be unremittingly exerted to prevent the breaking out of hostilities among Nations; and to put an end to those which still unhappily exist, as well in America as in Europe.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

His Majesty commands us to thank you for the provision which you have made for the service of the year.

His Majesty's attention will be constantly directed to the reduction of the public expenditure, in every degree that may be consistent with the due maintenance of the security, honour, and interests of his kingdom.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

We are specially commanded to assure you, that His Majesty's paternal feelings have been deeply affected by the distresses which have prevailed among the manufacturing classes of His Majesty's subjects; and by the exemplary patience with which those distresses have been generally borne.

His Majesty trusts, that the causes out of which the partial stagnation of employment has arisen, are, under the blessing of Providence, in a course of gradual abatement.

His Majesty is confident, that your presence and example, in your several counties, will contribute to maintain and encourage the loyal and orderly spirit which pervades the great body of his people.

And His Majesty relies upon your disposition to inculcate that harmony and mutual good-will among the several great interests of the country, upon which the common prosperity of them all essentially depends.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending May 20.

Per Quarter:

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	57	4	Rye ....	39	8
Barley ..	28	7	Beans ...	37	7
Oats ....	24	0	Pease ....	39	8

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended May 20.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	24,985	Rye ....	196
Barley ..	6,235	Beans ...	2,989
Oats ...	22,141	Pease ...	300

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, May 20.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat..	4,526	for 13,689	17	7	Average,	60	5
Barley..	1,469	..	2,013	6	2	.....	27 4
Oats..	7,488	..	9,810	3	5	.....	26 2
Rye....	62	..	79	8	8	.....	29 11
Beans..	780	.....	1,484	12	3	.....	38 0
Pease ..	81	....	147	14	3	.....	36 5

Friday, May 24.—The arrivals of Grain and Flour to this morning's market are tolerably good. Wheat had a dull sale, at Monday's prices. Barley, Beans, and Pease, are unaltered. Oats, in consequence of the fine showers, had a heavy sale, at last quotations.

Monday, May 29.—The supplies of all sorts of Grain last week were moderate, except of Oats, which were tolerably good, owing to a number of vessels arriving from Ireland. This morning there are scarcely any fresh arrivals of Corn. The Wheat trade has ruled heavily throughout the day, and the best samples with difficulty obtained the terms of this day se'nnight, while other qualities must be offered at less prices to make sales.

There is scarcely any Malting Barley here, and the prices of such are nominal. Grinding parcels fully support the rates of last Monday. Pease and Beans remain steady.—There has been a heavy trade for Oats to-day, in anticipation of the foreign parcels coming into the market this week, and although the prices are not reported lower, yet sales have been effected with extreme difficulty. The Flour trade is unaltered.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack ..... 50s. — 55s.  
 — Seconds ..... 42s. — 46s.  
 — North Country .. 40s. — 43s.

## COAL MARKET, May 26.

*Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.*

40½ Newcastle.. 20½ 26s. 0d. to 35s. 0d.  
 17 Sunderland.. 11 32s. 0d. — 36s. 0d.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from May 22 to May 27, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	4,930	Tares ....	713
Barley ..	1,283	Linseed ..	1,365
Malt....	6,766	Rapeseed..	—
Oats ....	17,956	Brank ..	—
Beans ...	1,086	Mustard..	—
Flour....	7,609	Flax ....	—
Rye.....	—	Hemp ....	—
Pease....	128	Seeds ...	—

Foreign. — Wheat, 1,025; Oats, 11,389; and Beans 50 quarters.

Monday, May 29.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 109 firkins of Butter, and 2,366 bales of Bacon, and from Foreign Ports, 5,705 casks of Butter.

### HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, May 29.—The accounts both from Kent and Sussex confirm our former statements, that flies are rapidly increasing, as well as in Worcester and Herefordshire, where both lice and nits are in a forward state; the bines grow rapidly. At the present critical time prices are nominal, but few sellers; a few warm days will cause a more decided appearance.

Maidstone, May 25.—The fine weather this last week has made a great improvement in the Hop Plantations, and their present appearance is so very promising that the duty is advanced here considerably.

In some grounds, we hear, the fly has been found, but we do not consider it by any means general, and the bines look particularly healthy and well.

Worcester, May 24.—In our market on Saturday 206 pockets were weighed. Prices have declined from 5s. to 10s. per cwt. in consequence of the favourable accounts from the Plantation, the late warm weather having much improved the appearance of the plant, which is growing fast.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 29.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	4	0	to	5 0
Mutton ...	3	10	—	4 6
Veal .....	5	0	—	5 6
Pork .....	4	8	—	5 4
Lamb .....	5	4	—	6 2
Beasts ...	2,080		Sheep ..	19,930
Calves....	200		Pigs ...	160

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 2
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 6
Lamb .....	4	0	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 2
Mutton ...	3	2	—	4 2
Veal .....	8	8	—	5 4
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	0	—	6 0

## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow, May 27.*—Our supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was exceedingly limited, and all of them were very soon disposed of; prices 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. The supply of Store Stock was very large; Scots sold from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone when fat, but the sale continues very slow; Short Horns 5s. 6d. to 4s.: Cows and Calves are a flat sale, and lower in prices; Homebreds, of all sorts, are much lower.

*Horncastle, May 27.*—Beef, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 9d.; and Veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

*Manchester, May 24.*—The number of fat Cattle to our market continues small, and was taken off at prices fully equal to last. Sheep were more plentiful, and the supply rather more than the demand could take off. In consequence of the scarcity of grass, Lambs were both short in number and inferior in quality, at an advance in price.

At *Morpeth Market*, on the 24th inst. there was a good shew of Cattle, Sheep, and Lambs: there being a good demand, fat met ready sale; inferior stood long, and part were not sold.—Beef, from 5s. 9d. to 6s. 6d.; Mutton, 7s. to 8s.; and Lamb, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended May 20, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	60	0	28	0	25	7
Essex.....	60	10	29	9	25	10
Kent.....	59	9	30	3	25	5
Sussex.....	56	9	31	5	23	10
Suffolk.....	55	0	28	6	25	10
Cambridgeshire.....	55	6	27	0	20	8
Norfolk.....	53	10	25	9	26	8
Lincolnshire.....	54	0	26	0	19	3
Yorkshire.....	53	10	25	9	20	0
Durham.....	55	3	0	0	27	0
Northumberland.....	52	3	32	0	23	4
Cumberland.....	61	6	30	2	22	8
Westmoreland.....	64	5	38	0	24	9
Lancashire.....	61	8	0	0	24	8
Cheshire.....	62	5	0	0	26	4
Gloucestershire.....	58	7	34	3	24	0
Somersetshire.....	57	8	31	7	23	1
Monmouthshire.....	60	9	36	6	25	8
Devonshire.....	60	0	30	4	22	0
Cornwall.....	63	7	39	8	24	11
Dorsetshire.....	55	8	20	10	25	2
Hampshire.....	64	11	29	10	23	2
North Wales.....	63	8	34	1	21	4
South Wales.....	59	6	28	0	19	3

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

Vol. 58.—No. 11.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1826. [Price 6d.



## MR. COBBETT'S SPEECHES AT PRESTON,

[From the *Morning Herald*, June 3.]

Preston, June 1.

THE hopes or apprehensions entertained of a fourth being added to the number of candidates for this borough, are now at an end. The absence of a "Tory" candidate, as it is called, will have a considerable effect in the event of the election, for the Catholics may now exercise the franchise by connivance, a Tory candidate being the only person that could have an interest in excluding their votes. It is the most singular thing in the world, to the apprehensions of many here, how it is that the foremost of the volunteers

who were provoking Mr. Horrocks to a contest on this occasion is a Catholic gentleman of the profession of the law. However, Mr. Horrocks does not stand, and the battle is to be between Mr. Cobbett and Mr. Wood. The latter is now here assisted in his plans by Dr. Crompton, of Liverpool, worthy of being remembered as one of the favourite subjects of Mr. Canning's entertaining dissections on the hustings at Liverpool. Mr. Cobbett commenced yesterday a laborious canvass, and intends to keep it up with activity.

About eight o'clock a multitude about equal to that of any former evening, quite as orderly, and as much determined to hear quietly, presented themselves be-

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]



fore the window of the Castle Inn, when

Mr. COBBETT addressed them as follows:—"Gentlemen, very few circumstances in my life have given me more pleasure than those circumstances which attended my entrance into this town last Monday. But, Gentlemen, sorry am I to hear that there have taken place, connected with that entrance, certain circumstances that are well calculated to give all men pain, and particularly to give me pain, who am unfortunately, but very innocently the cause of the trespasses being committed by those thoughtless boys. Before we proceed to the immediate subject on which I intend to address you this evening, allow me to say a word or two respecting those trespasses, which, I understand, have given offence to some gentlemen. It is very far, indeed, from me to give encouragement to encroachment on the property of any man. The rich man has a right to have his property protected as well as the poor man to have the fruits of his industry protected. To secure to both the quiet enjoyment of that which is lawfully in their possession, has been the object of my writings during my life. I cannot justify the conduct of those boys.

I do not want to justify that conduct. But I only hope that those gentlemen who have been offended on this occasion, will please to remember two things—and that remembering them, they will allow such an impression to be made on their minds as will induce them to be lenient to those boys. The first thing, Gentlemen (I mean you in particular, fathers and mothers, who hear me) is, that we were most of us once boys ourselves, and recollect that when we were boys we were not too discreet; we never consulted the law—indeed, we did not, and could not understand the law. The next thing to remember is, that Monday was the 29th of May—a day which from time immemorial—from a time far beyond that which any of us can remember—in short, from the time when the restoration of Charles II. to the throne of England took place, was observed, not only as a holiday by the Church, not only as a day proper to be set apart for prayer and thanksgiving, but it has been the practice—a practice especially encouraged by all the rich and all the loyal parts of the community, for people to put boughs of oak into their hats, to exhibit those boughs, to shew them about—and it was done on

this account, because that King Charles, in his younger days, after his family had been banished from the country, being pursued by his enemies, was protected by the oak. Those branches of the oak sheltered him from rebellious hands — hands that are so obnoxious to loyal hearts. Therefore, as those gentlemen who have been offended, and so justly offended by the acts of those boys, are I dare say loyal, I trust that they will also be merciful, and recollect that it has been always the policy of the rich and the loyal to encourage boys—for boys have been at all times the foremost at every thing of that sort, to gather boughs of oak on this day, and when not of oak, boughs of any other description. Now, Gentlemen, I am not one that is likely to think slightly of trespasses committed on trees. Having a tree grow up for one, is like having a child born, and one is almost as fond of the tree as he is of the child, as I know by experience; for I think I am. I have raised millions of trees myself. I am fonder of the employment of planting than I am of any other employment in the world; but yet disposed to be angry as I should be — passionate as I should be on such an occasion,

when I took all circumstances into consideration, and particularly when I recollected that to the loyal motive which they had in gathering those boughs, the boys added the patriotic motive also of assisting in the return to Parliament of that man who could best procure for their country the recovery of its liberty and its happiness—I say, when I considered all these things, I do not think I should be so angry, or visit the delinquents with so severe a punishment. I trust then that sentiments such as I have expressed will be entertained by the gentlemen who have been offended—so justly offended. I hope that what I have said will have no little weight in inducing them to act as it has been their honour to act generally, but not in all instances, when other Magistrates of Lancashire, and of Cheshire, too, were remarkable for any thing rather than the mildness which characterized those of Preston. Preston! It is called Preston the proud—proud Preston! It has a great number of things to be proud of—the beauty of its situation—the beauty—I don't want to palaver—but really the beauty of the women! —(Loud laughter and applause.) —Every thing about it—wood,

water, hill and dale—every thing, the exterior all so beautiful; and then the conduct of its people—a people who have had now so long a time something very near Universal Suffrage. Gentlemen, this is a remarkable fact, that Preston has been singularly happy in being exempted from a great deal of those acts, not of tyranny exactly, but something approaching to it; from those contests, that violence and strife, which have afflicted and affrighted the regions about it. Preston has been long, but particularly from the year 1817 to the present time, a second Goshen—and amidst the violences, the strife of the something little short of bloodshed in many places, and the real bloodshed in other places, peace has been enjoyed in this favoured district. Therefore, Gentlemen, if for no other reason than this, Preston ought to be proud. I trust that nothing will happen on this occasion to diminish its claims to the character I have assigned to it. I hope the town will always have reason to be proud. It shall be my care, if you do me the honour of choosing me for your representative, not to do any act or suffer any word to escape me—not to be guilty of any sin, either of omission or commission, after

my name shall have once become connected with the celebrated and happy Preston, which shall have the effect of diminishing its claims to that title which it has so long and so justly enjoyed. Gentlemen, as to the result of my canvass this day, I can only say that if the rest of the town be in the same mind with respect to me as that part which I canvassed to-day, I should have no occasion to canvass any more.—(Cheers, and a laugh.) But though it should be utterly unnecessary to canvass any more—though this moment one of the other candidates should signify his intention of retiring and leaving me to get in without any further trouble, yet I would, and I will go to every single house, and shake every man and woman in it, if possible, by the hand. As to the result then, Gentlemen, I repeat that I should have no occasion to canvass at all, if the remainder of the borough were as favourable to me as that through which I canvassed to-day. Something, however, presented itself to me in the course of that canvass which affected me very much indeed. Several of the electors told me they were disqualified from voting. And why? Because they had received parish relief. Gentlemen,

that is a most affecting and important matter for our consideration; it opens a wide field of discussion, which, if duly treated, the closet of day-light would not see the end of. The subject, however, calls for some few observations at this moment. There was a time—there was a time, and for many centuries did that time last, when happy England knew not even the name of pauper. It was unknown in this country. I trust that you will live, most of you, to see that time again. Gentlemen, please to attend to what the law is on this subject. The description of this law I take from Blackstone, who tells you that it is a law founded on the principle of civil society. I have not the book by me, but I think I can state his very words, for they are so impressive that there is no difficulty in recollecting them. He is treating of the law regarding life—the protection of life and limb. “The law of England,” he says, “is not only attentive to the lives of men, to the limbs of men; not only does it take care that an Englishman shall not suffer in life or member, but it provides that he shall not suffer from hunger or from want. Every Englishman has a right to obtain necessaries, to receive a sufficiency to sustain

life, to have all that is needful to his support, and the same law extends to his wife and family of course, for they are a part of himself.” An Englishman, therefore, who is in a situation to require it, has the right, and, bear in mind, the right to come to the property of the rich, and to receive adequate sustenance out of it. Now look at this picture. Having this right, if he exercises it, then say they, according to the Common Law (which I deny, by the by), if he receives parish relief, that is, if he exercises one right given to him by the law, he cannot vote, that is to say, he cannot enjoy another right given to him by the law. So that to-day you have the right to vote for a Representative in Parliament; but if to-morrow you exercise another right, the right of receiving parish relief, then the right of to-day is gone.—(Loud cheering.) Gentlemen, if this was never put in the same way that I now put it to you before, so far as I know, do you think, if the question were put in this way to Blackstone himself, were he to rise from his grave for the purpose, and I have a great respect for his memory—or if it was put to the Twelve Judges—can a man, because he is in the

exercised of one right, be, for that reason, robbed of the enjoyment of another, that they would say he can? I am sure not. But however this be, the melancholy fact is, that there should be any paupers in England at all. What is the cause of it? I saw a man to-day of this class, with his wife and six children. If that poor man only had all the money which he had paid in taxes on tea, sugar, beer, and the hundred articles of his consumption, he would not, depend on it, want parish relief, at all events—(a laugh)—it would not be necessary for him to forfeit the right he has to vote at elections. Gentlemen, mark this—we send to Hanover every year the sum of one hundred and eleven thousand pounds, to pay Hanoverian soldiers—in pay and pensions for themselves and their wives—and we pay this sum now, because these Hanoverian soldiers were over here during the last war. What were they here for? Could not Englishmen take care of themselves? Did they want German nurses to look after them?—(A laugh.) Oh no. Then, Gentlemen, if you had less taxes to pay—if, as was once the case, you had hardly any taxes to pay—if you had not to pay an annual sum like this

for Hanoverian soldiers,] which, for ought I know, will be entailed on your grandchildren—then, how much better would be your situation?—not yours alone, but that of every other class; the men of property, for it is for their interest that I would exert myself, as well as for that of the poorer class, I am not, as I am sometimes accused of doing, seeking exclusively for the advantage of the latter class. I am no mob-orator, as I am called sometimes. I would consult the safety of the man of property as I would do it for the poor man; and if I have shown more anxiety about the condition of the latter, it was upon the principle, as the Scotchman says, that if you mind the pence and half-pence, the shillings and sixpences will take care of themselves.—(A laugh, and applause.) This is the reason why I have been more careful of the 'labouring class at all times. Gentlemen, in the conclusion of a little book which I wrote, the English Grammar, a work which some people buy occasionally, and which I addressed to my third son, I used these words:—"Always honour talent wherever you can find it, particularly if you find it in a poor man—but honour it most when exercised in favour of

a poor man against a rich oppressor." Such are the maxims which have governed me, and which I endeavour to inculcate into my children's minds. I am, therefore, more prone to attend to the welfare of the labouring classes, well knowing that if these pence and half-pence are taken care of, the shillings and six-pences will take care of themselves. There is no principle which I have ever put forward that does not go to protect all property alike, the property in the taxes only excepted—a species of property acquired on the principle, he catches who catch can, and the acquirement which it is any man's duty to resist by all the legal means in his power. Let us put a case to you. I am only supposing it, for it has not, as you will see, happened yet. Suppose now, one of the master manufacturers of your town to be reduced suddenly in his circumstances, by the late terrible acts of the Government—by degrees getting worse—his bills dishonoured—obliged to break up his establishment, sell his property, and dispose of his factory at about a tenth part of what it cost him—suppose him to be in the hands of a few malicious creditors, who seize him, put him in

prison, make him an insolvent, and that in his state of beggary, he is obliged to receive relief from the parish. What! shall that man who has been paying poor rates for perhaps threescore years, when the election comes, shall he not be entitled to vote, because, out of the thousands he has paid to the poor rates, he receives now some few shillings to save himself from starving?—(Much cheering.) Gentlemen, this is the case of us all. They talk of Whigs, Tories, and Radicals, distinctions which I always disliked. We are only two classes altogether—the one class that pays the taxes, the other class that eats the taxes. I belong myself to the former class. I always belonged to it. I have been always a tax payer, and perhaps, few persons have paid their taxes more cheerfully than I have; for I had my dip, I have had my cut at those who have been the instruments in levying them. I have seen those that have wept for being compelled to pay such an amount of taxes as they have paid—but I always said, do not lie down under the burden—show your hostility to the system which causes the weight, destroy that by every legal means, and you will destroy the burden. Gentlemen, I in-

tend to show you at our next time of meeting, what, probably a great number of you, those at least who are young men may not know—namely, how the Kings of England in former times, when England was as glorious as she is now, did without any taxes. I'll show you what her estate was. I'll show you how the property of her Kings was taken away, on the pretence that it was for their benefit, and how it was dribbled away to nothing, and how it lies over the country at this day—this Lord taking a part—a part to that Duke—a Noble Earl having a shire here—and a big Gentleman taking another shire there—and lastly, how large a share of it fell into their hands, generally, who have the most power in returning Members to Parliament.—(Laughter and cheers.) This detail will amuse you—and you will see thence the necessity of having the matter put to rights. The people will tell you that the taxes have always been in existence. It is not so. They have been in the world not above thirty years—not longer than Pitt's time scarcely. Pitt is the father of the taxes. There are some people who think that Pitt is the father of us all. I know he is not

my father at all events.—(Laughter and cheers.) Thirty years ago the taxes were sixteen millions a year—they are now fifty-seven millions a year. In the reign, the glorious reign of Queen Anne, when England beat France in war—when she extended her power in a surprising degree, five millions a year were the amount of the taxes, and that too, when the army which performed all these achievements were to be supported. Now, the taxes are fifty-seven millions a year—and it is a time of peace. This is so incredible, that if it were not capable of being easily proved, I would not tell it to you. It is my intention to show you how this work of taxation and poverty has gone on. But, Gentlemen, much paper and ink have been wasted, a great deal of preaching, all modes of inculcating notions have been exhausted, for the purpose of making you believe that our country is a monstrous great swaggering thing now, to what it was in former times. Gentlemen, our vanity—the principle of human vanity—comes in to assist those fellows who make this assertion, for we will not be content to acknowledge, that our country is not so glorious now, as it was six

hundred years ago—our vanity will not let us allow this. But the way to act wisely is to listen to truth, to discard vanity in our inquiries, and search after truth. I will show you that England is much less glorious now than she was six hundred years ago. I will show this by facts so satisfactory that nobody can doubt the conclusion; facts that will so work upon your feelings, as to inspire you with the will and determination not to die before you see England once more the free and happy country she once was. If you do me the honour to send me to Parliament, every exertion of mine,—and you have seen that I am capable of no little exertion,—shall be used to restore England to her former condition of renown and happiness. —(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have been amused at what I understand some persons have been saying since we came here—namely, “If he is in the House of Commons he will be able to say nothing at all.”—Well, then, I must fall down in a fit, to be sure.—(A laugh.) Perhaps out of the unspeakable respect which I bear to that Honourable House, so great will be my reverence for it, so humbled and abashed shall I find myself in its sight, that I shall not be able to utter one word.

Gentlemen, please to recollect, that that House passed an Act, which they still keep in force, to send me (and I firmly believe that that Act was made for me and me alone) into banishment if I uttered (for the second time) any thing having a tendency to bring it into contempt. Gentlemen, that House had existed for seven hundred years before it did such a thing as that. And what must be their opinion of their constituents? What must they think of themselves when they prepared to punish with banishment those constituents if they ventured to laugh at their representatives? Gentlemen, the first moment I am in the House, I shall not be there for one five minutes, without moving that that Act shall be burned by the hands of the common hangman. —(Great cheers and laughter.) They may say what they will about my low origin. I began, to be sure, by keeping the rooks off the pease; I was born, I may say, in a green field: there are some Ministers who were born in a green room. (Laughter.) I began by keeping away rooks, by keeping off these robbers from that which they had no right to eat. I have been all my life striving to keep off robbers from that which they ought



not to take. I pledge myself to you, at all events, that in that House I shall not have a seat for one five minutes, without saying in that place, that I would not sit there one moment longer covered with the infamy which is brought upon it by the existence of a law to protect me from the people. If I live and you live, you will hear of it when I do it. I will give notice for the repeal of that Act; and that succeeding, I shall move that it be burned by the hands of the common hangman. — (Great laughter and cheers.)

Any thing more monstrous than such an Act cannot be well conceived. Here so conscious *are* they—so conscious *were* they, I should say, for we must not speak of the present Parliament—so satisfied that they merited the contempt of their constituents, that they denounced the punishment of banishment for the utterance of any thing tending to bring their body into contempt. What would be thought of any gentleman who, riding in the streets, and seeing a group of persons, should say, “Don’t laugh at me, or I’ll send you all to banishment?”—(A laugh.) What would be thought of your Mayor—one of the last persons, I believe, to do such a thing—what

would be thought of him, if, seeing a parcel of boys and girls laughing at him, he should transport them all to Lancaster? Gentlemen, I have only to say, that to-morrow I recommence my canvass. It is a laborious work, but not more laborious than pleasant, not requiring more labour than I am able to encounter. Gentlemen, if possible, I will go to your houses, and shake by the hand every man and woman of you. I will use all lawful means in my power to obtain a seat in that House, where, I think, and you are sure also, that I can be of great service to you. It will not be in my power to address you again before Friday; but, at the same hour on that day, if you have leisure, and nothing better to do, I will be happy to see you. So good night. --- (Great applause.)

The crowd separated in the greatest order.

The opening part of Mr. Cobbett’s speech alludes to a search, which has been made for some boys who stripped some trees in the neighbourhood of their branches to decorate the procession on Monday last.

[From the *Morning Herald*, June 5.]

Preston, June 3.

Mr. Cobbett continues his canvass with unwearied diligence. His interviews with some of the electors, and his dialogues with the wives when they happen to be at all disposed to be humorous, are amusing in the extreme. Passing by a cottage in the outskirts of the town yesterday, the following invitation attracted the eyes of the canvassing party. It was pasted on the outside of the door:—

Mr. William Cobbett

Come entre my cot,

Three or fore votes

Will fall to your lot.

They did enter at the sound of this agreeable "sesame," and found therein three substantial voters, who gave earnest promises of support. Mr. Cobbett speaks with the strongest degree of feeling of the wretched scenes which he has witnessed in the course of his canvass. He unexpectedly entered a cottage yesterday, where he found a family of five or six preparing to make one of the few meals of the day on a piece of liver scarcely enough for one. He immediately threw down half a sovereign, and retired amidst the blessings of the wretched

family. "Ah! Mr. Cobbett," exclaimed an elector, with a face of glee that indicated that he was about to make a decided hit in the way of a jest, "I am going to support you, but you will not take it; you won't like my name." "Not like your name, my friend?" "No, you would think yourself disgraced by it." "Well, what is this name?"—"William Pitt." It is needless to say that the declaration was followed by a hearty laugh, and William Cobbett and William Pitt shook hands with the greatest cordiality. An Address from Chorley to the Electors of Preston was circulated here. It is to this effect:—

#### TO THE ELECTORS OF PRESTON.

Gentlemen,—We, the unrepresented part of the Inhabitants of Chorley and its Vicinity, beg leave to address you on the subject of the ensuing Election.

We have seen you struggling against the *monstrous Coalition* for the last twenty years, with admiration and sympathy; first under *Hanson*, then under *Crompton*, and lastly, when the *monster* received its death blow, under *Hunt* and *Williams*. We congratulate you on this bursting of your *fetters*. We congratulate you on the grand opportunity you now have of sending the only real *champion of the people*, Mr. Cobbett, into *Parliament*.

Gentlemen,—you have no doubt heard much of this Great Man: you have heard much of his inconsistency—much of his venality—much of his moral turpitude; but we defy any man to point out a single in-

stance, for the last twenty-five years of his life, wherein he has deserted the cause of the people: we defy any man to prove that he ever took a bribe: we defy any one to show us a single instance in the whole of his writings, where he inculcates vice and licentiousness.

When this persecuted man was driven out of his country—when he was driven into exile to avoid the *dungeons of Castlereagh and Sidmouth*—he did not turn his back on his country; he did not forget that he had left his friends and his countrymen manacled and gagged by these Ministers of misrule. No: he redoubled his efforts to release his country from bondage; to strike its deadly foes to the earth, and to restore it to its wonted prosperity.

Did not he, with unparalleled talent and industry, do that, while resting on the lap of America, which has immortalized his name; done honour to his country; thrown a lustre upon letters; and brought renown upon the press? He, by his own individual exertions, with his sole pen, wrote and conducted two weekly Newspapers, at the same time, in two different nations, a thousand leagues asunder!!! And that he did these things with his usual ability, the *famous Long Island Prophecy* bears ample testimony.

Gentlemen,—You are told that if you put Mr. Cobbett into Parliament he will lose courage—that he will be scared by the superior talents of the other Members. God knows what kind of men may be sent this Election; but if we take the last Parliament for a sample, we say that there is no foundation for this story. You are told, too, that if he have the courage to do what he promises, the Ministers will buy him over. Gentlemen, we do not know how far the Ministers are capable of bribery and corruption, but we know that many of our countrymen have been sent to prison for slighter assertions than these against the same personages.

Gentlemen,—We trust that you

see through these miserable shifts and tricks of his enemies. They are solely meant to annoy him, and to prevent you from giving him your votes at the ensuing Election. We beg to assure you, that the eyes of the whole country are upon you. Upon your conduct at this Election depends the future peace and welfare of our country. We rest assured that you know your duty; and your present conduct tells us you are determined to do it.

—Should Mr. Cobbett be returned for the Borough of Preston, at this Election, he will enter the House of Commons amidst the acclamations of the people. Anticipating events, Gentlemen, we can judge of your feelings on this occasion when you can, encircled among your friends, hold up your heads and say individually, “And I, too, was one of those persons who, setting aside all personal interest and sensual gratifications, for the good of my country, boldly came forward on the *day of Election*, and gave Mr. Cobbett a *Plumper!*”

June 1.

In the evening Mr. Cobbett addressed between five and six thousand persons, from the windows of the Castle Inn, to the following effect:—

Gentlemen—Before I proceed to the matter which I have to request your attention to this evening, I beg to communicate to you the information which I have received from London, relative to this job which we have in hand. —(A laugh.) The election, I suppose, will be about next Monday week—it will begin then, in all probability—how long a time

or how little a time it will last, I really cannot say. Gentlemen, the Parliament—thank God and the King—the Parliament was put an end to last night, I believe. It is no more before this time, and we are all, thank God, under a kingly government for a time at all events. Gentlemen, a very celebrated Frenchman, Rousseau, a very celebrated politician, speaking of the liberties of England, said, that the people of England were free for only forty days in every seven years—that is to say, when the House of Commons has no existence. Only forty days' freedom in seven years! And he added—remember he added this—the use which they make of this forty days of freedom proves that they ought to be slaves for the rest of the time. I am very sorry to say, and you know it well, that this observation is but too true, generally speaking. For, Gentlemen, the use which the Electors of England generally make of the forty days of freedom—the forty days of opportunity which they have to take care of their rights—to send the person whom they wish to represent them to Parliament—the use which the Electors generally make of that power, only proves that they ought to be

slaves for the rest of the seven years. I trust, Gentlemen, that you are about to set an example of the contrary of this; I trust you will so act as to make me, at the end of this election, to invoke the shade of Rousseau—to call this Frenchman from his grave, and say to him, “I will show you “a body of British electors who “do not merit the censure which “you have cast upon the whole “—who do not use their forty “days' liberty as if they merited slavery for seven years.” Gentlemen, I hope your conduct will be such as to enable me to say this; and, filled with hope, I proceed now to address you.

Gentlemen, when we last parted I made a sort of promise, that when we next should meet I would communicate to you such information as I possessed, relative to the mode in which the Kings of England formerly kept up their regal state, without drawing any thing from the taxes! Gentlemen, what I have seen in the course of my canvass, particularly yesterday, induces me to choose another topic. There is no harm, surely, in my doing so—in changing one's mind on such an occasion; there is no great harm in such a breach of pro-

mise as this—at all events, this promise was not as sacred as promises which were not kept, and which were made by persons at a time when they did not know what they were doing.

Gentlemen, the topic I mean to address you upon, is pauperism. Gentlemen, I have seen such scenes of misery, such scenes of woe, as I believe never existed in the world. I have read, indeed, of worse scenes existing in Ireland: I have heard talk of worse,—but I have never seen so bad before, or any thing, even approaching the condition in which I yesterday beheld a woman and her children. Gentlemen, this sight has induced me to swerve from my intention of addressing you as to the manner in which the Kings of England formerly maintained themselves without taxes on the people. I intend to speak to you of another sort of paupers, which is the cause of that particular sort of pauperism, so many examples of which I saw to-day. When a man becomes a pauper (a name which was formerly unknown in this happy land)—when a man becomes so situated as to receive relief,—a relief, by the bye, which he has a right to receive by law, as I showed you, on the last

day of our meeting, he is reproached as a criminal, as an outcast, as worthy of no privilege, as a man to be trodden under foot, as a person to be treated as they please, by those who give him the relief.

Let me now speak of that other description of paupers, the paupers who are relieved out of the taxes; those taxes having been collected from the earnings of the labouring people, in a great measure out of the necessaries of life, wearing apparel, out of every thing they use. During the last twenty years, the sum of sixteen hundred thousand pounds,—one million six hundred thousand pounds, have been applied for the relief of whom?—the poor clergy of the established Church.—(A laugh.) Now look at this poor clergy! This sum for the relief of the poor clergy of England! Well, is not this as much relief as parish-relief?—(A laugh.) Aye, and it is more shameful too, for it is given to gentlemen and ladies doing nothing, who breed other gentlemen and ladies who do nothing, without any body thinking of putting a check to them either. These are the persons to whom the money is given, and it is taken from the industrious people. The man of property too,

the gentleman, the master manufacturer, the shop-keeper, the tradesman, all have a share in this contribution. Gentlemen, call it what you will; it is relief; yet, if we attempted to reproach these persons, to hold up the finger to them, and say, there goes a nest of paupers, we should be called disloyal, rebellious. God knows what, and fit to be destroyed by horse or foot, or no matter how. Gentlemen, I wish that this sixteen hundred thousand pounds were all that were given to this description of splendid paupers, but it is not; and if I read their names to you, if I read the list of all the lords and all the ladies, of all the uncles, all the aunts, of all the cousins, of all the nieces, all the grand-children, all the children, all the relations, of all sorts that belong to this class of paupers, I should not have done reading them to you before the election was finished.

Gentlemen, with your permission, now since there are projects a-foot for checking the growth of population, for preventing women from having children, since there are projects a-foot for diminishing the demand for parish relief in a way that is not decent to be described in such company as I see before me; you will, I see, allow me

to read the names of some of these genteel paupers; you have them here pensioned away from the moment of their birth, pensioned from their birth until after their marriage; lords, ladies, lords' daughters, &c. &c.; in short, the whole of them, peers and peers' relations are heaped together in this book, which has been published by order of Parliament, and published too at our expense, and therefore we have a right to use it.—(A laugh.) Gentlemen, I will just take a group or two for you of these splendid paupers. Is it not a greater shame for them to obtain relief in this way, although they are not reproached, than the poor man, who, perhaps, has a numerous family to support, to obtain relief, and is so unjustly the object of reproach? Shall we blaspheme so? Shall we turn the Scriptures upside down so? Shall we set all laws at defiance to gratify an insulting oppressor? Here are the names of a pretty group. In the first place:—

Here Mr. Cobbett took up the third Report of the Committee on the Public Expenditure of the United Kingdom, Pensions, Sinecures, Revenues, &c., ordered to be printed June 29, 1808.

Benedict, Arnold and Thomas Morrison, in trust for Edward

Stephen Arnold, James Robertson Arnold, and Sophia Matilda Arnold—very pretty names these—(a laugh) and George Arnold, one hundred pounds each, until they are married.—(A laugh.) Then there is Lord Lauderdale, and somebody else, in trust for Lord Rosslyn's children, and then there is a list of the children with their pensions. These pensions are paid out of the taxes levied upon you—levied on your tea, your candles, your soap, on the beer you drink, on the hundred other articles of consumption which you use. Then there are the M'Kenzies—each of them with one hundred and twenty pounds a year—a pretty family of children. What a multitude of you would this sum keep, according to our way of keeping people. Here is another pretty group, Robert Hallifax and Catharine Hallifax, the widow in trust for Gertrude Hallifax, Charlotte Hallifax, Marianne Hallifax, Caroline Hallifax, Catherine Hallifax, and Elizabeth Hallifax.—(Laughter.) A whole family of paupers! Then there is Lord Sydney, and the Rev. T. Sydney, in trust for somebody; in short, the book is so full of these people I wish I could give a copy of it to each of

you, for I am sure you ought to have it. You have heard of that swaggering blade the Marquis of Anglesea, a very proud lord—a man of noble descent, though I believe some of his ancestors were pages in the time of Henry VIII.—but that is no matter. You remember he made a dreadful denunciation about the Irish last year—a very gallant and proud lord. This lord had got a sister, and she enjoyed a pension of three hundred a year since the year 1801; after that, however, she had to be married, and she wanted a little more, and accordingly a little more was added to the pension. But, Gentlemen, all this is out of our money, that is the worst of it.—(A laugh.) Can there be any reason in such a system as this? We are told, Gentlemen, that a kingly government cannot be sustained, without that Government taking away the earnings of the poor man, the profits of the shopkeeper, the manufacturer, and the merchant; and the rent of the estated gentleman; and distributing them amongst their own dependants. Unless this is done, they say, a kingly government is not to be supported. In my mind, that is but a poor compliment to kingly governments; it is the loyal men

who say this. I, who am called a jacobin, a radical, and the devil knows what—I say it may be sustained without any tricks of the sort—that it has been sustained without them for nearly a thousand years.—that it was without them when England was greater, more glorious, more happy, than she is now. When she was a most powerful country—renowned for good living—for all sorts of virtues—when valour and hospitality were the least of her virtues; when she was honest and valiant, virtuous, and every thing good: and yet for one thousand years, while that was her character, not one farthing was ever raised in taxes, to be laid out in the manner I have described to you. It is we, then, who are the loyal men, who would deliver the country from this unjust charge, from this unjust distribution, from this family account of Sir Robert Peel, wherein one part of the family takes all the victuals, and nothing remains for the rest. But, Gentlemen, it is a gross misrepresentation, and highly injurious to kingly government, to say that the existence of the evils under which we smart, of the mischief which produces all sorts of misfortunes, which takes away our earnings, and snatches away the dinner

from off the table; it is, I say, a gross misrepresentation to attribute the fault of this to kingly government. It reminds me of the story in the Bible, with which you are well acquainted; I mean the Apocryphal story of Bel and the Dragon. This idol is there represented to have been in the habit of swallowing, daily, a great quantity of victuals. The Priests declared him to have a most voracious appetite. Baskets of food were placed before the god every day. What has become of them? cried the people. He has eaten them all up since last you were here, exclaimed the priests; and more was brought. At last some amongst them, more cunning than the rest, resolved to see if Bel was as great a devourer as they said he was. Unseen by the priests, they strewed ashes, or something else, I forget what it was; and soon after found the traces of the footsteps of the wives of the priests, who came to take away the provisions which they said poor Bel had devoured.—(Laughter.) In the same manner the King is treated. A round million they score down to him. Ask them how that million is spent. If you hear the truth, you will find, that a great part, if not nearly the whole, is shared

Y



amongst themselves. Now this is material for you to know ; and, if there was a reformed representation, to which a certain gentleman, in this place, seems to take such a dislike, this would not be. Do you think that if the Members of Parliament, generally, were chosen by the people as freely as you choose your Members here, that the taxes would be given away in the manner I have described ? No, the people would take care to choose men who would take an opposite course of distribution ; who, in short, would take the necessary steps to put an end to those splendid paupers. Gentlemen, this is the thing to keep to. Unless a reform takes place in Parliament ; unless the men, who are to vote away the public money are freely chosen by you, they will give it in the way I have described ; but if they are sent there by their relations, and immediate friends, is it not natural, that when they have the opportunity, they will give away that money to those relations and friends ? In the mean time something may be done ; some little to check the progress of this expense ; something is immediately called for. Does it not astonish you that nothing has been done ; nothing stated, no resolutions passed, no declarations made up to this time ? Is it not very singular that it should be reserved for me to state all this ; to propose a remedy for all this ? Are you not astonished ? Perhaps it may be stated—I may be asserting that which is not true ? But I am speaking in the presence of you all ; what I say will be printed in London in a few days, from this, in a better shape, perhaps, than I now speak it to you.—And here, by way of episode, let me remark to you, that I have seen, in a Paris paper which has been just put into my hands, translated into the French language, a speech which I made since I came here, a speech which I delivered to you, the Electors of Preston, from this place. So that, Gentlemen, what I say, being in print, as it will be, if I stated that which is not true, I should be torn to atoms, at least, by the press. It is not likely, Gentlemen, I would expose myself to this hazard. It is, Gentlemen, then, you will see somewhat surprising that these facts have not before appeared in print—that they have not been brought before Parliament—that they have not been made a subject of resolutions and bills. But, Gentlemen, if all the people were to hear these facts

stated before them—if they were to be embodied in the shape of resolutions and acts—if they were to be brought forward in the numerous ways in which a skilful man can put them—if this were done, it would be impossible that the enormous abuses which I have described should continue. Let me, then, appeal to you. Electors of Preston, you have it in your power to cause that statement to be made—you have it in your power to choose that skilful man, who will promulgate these facts in such a manner, that they will reach every soul in the kingdom. Gentlemen, you will act in such a manner as to enable me to give the lie to the Frenchman, and to wipe away that stain on the character of the English, when he said that they used the liberty of forty days in such a manner as proved they ought to be slaves the rest of the seven years.

To-morrow evening I shall have an opportunity of addressing you upon the subject which I promised should have been the theme of this evening. I shall pursue the canvass with all diligence—as I should do if I had the least doubt of success. I feel, however, as conscious that I shall succeed as I can be of anything in this world.—I shall, as it is

my duty, go to the house of every man, particularly every poor man, to shake him and his wife by the hand—to pledge myself to him to do every thing in my power to deliver him from his present misery, wretchedness, and want—want, brought about by no fault of his, but resulting from the system pursued by the Government. Only think of the situation of the poor man—a weaver, suppose him to have full work, earns about 35l. or 36l. a-year.—20l. of that go in taxes, as I am ready to prove. I say this in the presence of 10,000 of you. I say it also in the presence of many who will be able to detect me if I speak a falsehood. I repeat that out of the 36l. he earns, the weaver pays 20l. in taxes. Supposing this weaver to have been at work 30 years—20 times 30, here are 600l. from the weaver in 30 years. If he had this sum in his pocket, and if it was not enjoyed by the splendid paupers, how well off would the poor weaver be in case of sickness, or slackness of work. Gentlemen, it is right, it is fair, that you should enjoy the fruits of your labour. You should be restored to that condition in which you should have to yourselves the produce of your own industry,

instead of its being wasted in gilded chariots and diamond-covered dresses for the splendid paupers who devour the substance of the land.

The vast concourse having given three cheers, retired in the most orderly manner.

[*From the Morning Herald, June 7th.*]

*Preston, 5th June.*

THE writs for the Election have been received, and the polling will, in all probability, commence on Saturday or Monday at farthest.

At the usual hour and place Mr. COBBETT addressed an immense crowd to the following effect:—Gentlemen, I am very much afraid that nothing I shall be able to say to you will be a sufficient compensation to you for the trouble you are so good as to take to listen to what I have to say. But there are some facts relating to the mode in which formerly the Government was carried on, without those loads of taxes, the occasion of all the distress, which facts, as I have on a former night promised to do, I will now state. A notion appears to prevail pretty much, that England was always the miserable taxed country she now is. Nothing can be more erroneous—you have all read about, you have all heard songs about, you have all listened to tunes about the Roast Beef of Old England. Precious little of that roast beef, I promise you, have I seen in the houses of those ingenious, industrious persons whom I have canvassed within these three or four days in Preston. Foreigners believe and say

that all the English eat roast beef and plum-pudding.—(A laugh.) Our forefathers had both, and in great abundance too. And this is one reason why we should not be conceited of ourselves—why we should not let our vanity, our human frailty so get the better of us, as to make us believe that we are so much wiser, so much more clever than our old-fashioned forefathers. They did not, at all events, suffer the Government of their day to take away the dinner from their table—they did not permit this—whatever were the follies that could be laid to their charge, and they were not without some follies; they took special care that whatever sort of Government they had over them, however the Parliament was composed, whether of Bishops, or Peers, or Commons, or all; whether they had no Parliament, or whether they had no King, they took good care of this, that the Government, however constituted, should not take from them their good living.—(Cheers, and laughter.) Hence England was a country always renowned for good living; all those old sayings about roast beef and plum pudding—about English hospitality, must have arisen from something; they could not have proceeded from nothing; those sayings were too general to have come from nothing, from a nonentity. There must have been therefore roast beef and plum pudding, not confined to the tables of the great and the rich, but common to everybody; all the people must have been in the habit of tasting it—they must have practised hospitality, and the poor must have received it commonly at the houses of the

rich. When I was a boy things were very different, compared with what they are at this day. I can remember very well when hospitality was shown at the houses of the Noblemen, Bishops, Deans, dignitaries, and estated men. I can remember this. Gentlemen, let me advert to the cause of this great change. You are told to believe, and it is the interest as it is the constant endeavour of these taxing rulers of yours to make you believe, that England was always—was from time immemorial the taxed country she now is; that the people always paid a monstrous deal of taxes to the Government. This is a very gross falsehood, as gross as ever was endeavoured to be instilled into the minds of any people. The truth is, that until two centuries ago England knew comparatively nothing at all of taxes; the people had none to pay. "What!" you will ask, "no taxes! why, what paid the sinecures, the pensions—what maintained a standing army? What kept up the barracks? What paid the bands of pensioners?" The answer to these questions is this. There were no such things in those days; no sinecures; no pensioners; no barracks; no standing armies.—(Mr. Cobbett might have been forgiven if he had added "no stage coaches;" for at this moment the Lancaster coach was wantonly driven through the crowd; who instead of retorting the insult, peacefully opened a passage, and let the intruder in.) Gentlemen, I say that all these things were unknown to England in former days, they are all of modern date. Blackstone, in his Commentaries, a book, mind you,

that was made by a Judge on the Bench; a book, indeed, containing only the laws themselves, a book that is constantly referred to by lawyers, says expressly that the laws of England knew no such thing as a standing soldier in time of peace—knew no such thing as a barrack—no such thing as an internal fortress; all these things, he says, are inimical to liberty: they do very well for despotic countries, but they are unknown to England. And this Judge wrote only so little a time ago as the beginning of the reign of his late Majesty. How is it that this great, this terrible change has been brought about? None of these expenses had to be defrayed, therefore no money was asked for to defray them—no taxes were levied for that purpose—and as to the national debts, they are quite of modern date, though we are told very differently by Wm. Pitt and his associates, but there was no debt, at least none to signify, before his time. The kings formerly had their own estates, their landed estates like the noblemen and great men, and with the produce of these estates they kept their Judges, their Ambassadors, their gentlemen in attendance, their Master of the Robes, Master of the Horse, in short, all the officers of State, in the same way as a nobleman now keeps his coachman, his butler, and other servants. That was the state of England in former time: she knew nothing of taxes. When the king wanted money to be raised by taxes to carry on his foreign wars, to give dower to a daughter, or to dispose of it for any other usual purpose, he called a Parliament, and asked them to

give him so much. The Parliament sometimes granted him money, and sometimes, remember, sometimes they refused to grant it. But when they did lay on taxes, it was on the estates of the noblemen, not on the beer, the malt, the sugar, the tea of that lady below me, not on the things which were consumed by the people. All was charged on the nobles, and, therefore, it was that those noblemen had the chief hand in former times in sending Members to Parliament; and a very good right they had to appoint the persons who granted away the money, for what needed the people to have cared what the Parliament did with the money, so long as they had nothing to do with *their* money?—(A laugh and cheers.) Now, Gentlemen, with respect to this estate of His Majesty. There is still a king of England, regularly descending from his ancestors—and you will very naturally say to me, What has become of the estate? why has he not the estate now? I'll tell you, Gentlemen. Certain noblemen and other courtiers were cunning enough to get it away from him, now a piece from here, then a piece from there, a mine here, for the King had those estates over all the counties—they were very large, quite enough to maintain all the expenses of a kingly establishment. But the nobles took it away by degrees, getting the Parliament to give it to them not directly, but by leases or grants for 99 and 100 years, or some other sort of terms, so that the King has no part of it now at all events. Gentlemen, you have all heard of my Lord Lonsdale, the head of the Lowther family, here in Westmor-

land, the neighbouring county to you. I could give you one hundred instances of the way in which the King's estate was given away, but that for the present I see we are likely to be interrupted by a part of this standing army in time of peace—(The interruption proceeded from the file and drum of a recruiting party that was passing in the neighbourhood, and the allusion excited much laughter.) I will give you one specimen. In the county of Westmorland there is this family I mentioned to you by the name of Lowther, at the head of which is Lord Lonsdale. I remember the time when he was called Sir James Lowther, but he became by degrees, first a Baron, then a Viscount, then an Earl; and this Earl Lonsdale has, I will not say he has got a part, I will not go so far as to accuse him of taking a part, but he has got a lease of part of the King's estate.—(Much laughing.) There is a great deal, let me tell you, in having it in the terms of a lease. In short, Gentlemen, this Nobleman has got a very considerable, a very valuable part of the estate—very valuable; there are mines on it too. This estate of Lord Lonsdale was rented—mind, rented, by his predecessor, for ninety-nine years (a good long course of time), beginning at a period which I shall read for you presently. This immense estate was let for a mere trifle. It may be worth 40, or 50, or 60,000*l.* a year. I do not say it is—I do not know that it is; but it may, for aught I know, be worth more. You shall hear what it is let for; and in order to enable you to judge better of this whole matter, I'll state one or two facts more. There

is in London a very fashionable street called Pall-mall, which belonged formerly to the Crown. I should have told you before, that the estates of the Crown being taken away, were given to the public. The public has the benefit of them, His Majesty getting in lieu a sweeping sum of money. This estate is, therefore, the public's—our's now, and Lord Lansdale is our tenant—(A laugh.) I shall now tell you an anecdote, which I know of my own knowledge, and therefore can vouch for the truth of it. I myself rented a house in this same street, Pall-mall, nearly opposite a place called Carlton House, the house where the King resided when he was Prince of Wales, and where His Majesty now comes to when in London. Well, the rent I paid to the person who had a lease of it was 300*l.* a year. The rent which that person paid to the public, to us, was fifteen pounds, sixteen shillings and two pence a year.—(Cheers and laughter.) Very well. The Duke of Buckingham has a house in the same street, Pall-mall—a most magnificent palace of a house, and I should say that it might be very moderately let for a thousand pounds a year—his Grace pays forty-two pounds and some odd pence a year for this house—(a laugh), adding about twenty pounds a year, which he pays as a fine for the granting of the lease. There is another house not far from those I have mentioned, called Marlborough House, and I am sure I used always to think that it belonged to the Dukes of Marlborough; but it does not; it is the public's—it is our house.—(A laugh.) During the time that

a residence was sought out for the late unfortunate Queen, this house was going to be rented of her son-in-law, the Prince of Coburg. The rent asked then was 1500*l.* a year. The rent which the Duke pays us the public, is 35*l.* a year. Gentlemen, there is a specimen for you of the way in which this estate, the public's estate, is taken care of. I have often said, and I could prove it, that if that estate was fairly managed, it would be sufficient at this moment to maintain an adequate establishment for His Majesty; it would enable him to pay his Judges, his Ambassadors, all the Officers of State, of whom he may have occasion: it would be sufficient to defray every possible expense for carrying on the government, exclusive of those of that capital article, the Navy. The whole of this estate does not produce a net average rent; I speak from the accounts made out by the Parliament itself—of more than 100, or 150,000*l.* a year, whereas, it ought to yield one million and a half. That is my opinion, as I shall make manifest to the Parliament when you shall have done me the honour of sending me there. Here, then, is a proof of the manner in which their affairs are managed for the public—that abused, cajoled, and deceived public. Between 100,000*l.* and 150,000*l.* a year—(it certainly never exceeds 180,000*l.*)—about 130,000*l.* a year on the average, to be received from an estate which ought to yield better than a million and a half! Gentlemen, you will observe that I state these facts not alone to you, who, when you are dispersed from this place, may not be able long to bear them in your recollections—but who, at

least, will be able to repeat them to your neighbours, or to one another; it is not to you alone, who, I know, cannot state them to the world, who cannot circulate them in print. But I state them in the hearing of those who are sure to write them down—who are sure to put them on paper, to cause them to be put in print; they will be sent up to London, and you will see them come back to you here in a newspaper, in a week or ten days from this. You may be sure, therefore, that I would not make these statements if I did not believe them to be true to the best of my knowledge; and that if I do deceive you, it is from error, and not from a wish to deceive. Bear this in mind—bear in mind that I make this statement to you, knowing that my reputation depends on its being true, for there are a great many persons who would be glad of the opportunity to show that that reputation was bad—glad of the opportunity, to use a vulgar expression, of picking a hole in my coat—(A laugh.) It is with the full knowledge of that circumstance that I make this statement to you. I make it, pledging my reputation for knowledge, to the truth of what I say, namely, that the crown estate, or rather the public estate, for such in reality it is, is worth much nearer two millions sterling a year than it is the paltry sum which it actually yields.—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, to manage that subject alone, is worth sending a man to Parliament for. Let me now read for you out of this book the particulars of that part of the estate of Walsingham which has come into the hands of the Lowthers. Let

me beg of you to consider what are your rights. Let me tell you that of that estate, of which the Earl of Lonsdale is now the tenant, we are all the owners; that that poor weaver I now see under me is as much the part owner of it as any Nobleman or Gentleman of England is the owner of the estates which he lets to his tenants. Every man, I say, who pays a tax—every man who breathes the air of England, I say, is as much such part owner as any of the persons I mentioned are the owners of the estate they let. Gentlemen, you see to describe the divers items of this estate in the shortest possible compass takes all these leaves, 111 pages.—[Here Mr. Cobbett took up the Report of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, dated Jan. 25, 1787.]—Gentlemen, I find that it consists of three-fourths of the barony of Kendal; that is to say, “two-fourth parts thereof called the Richmond fee, and one-fourth thereof called the Marquis fee; and the grant is made free to Sir J. Lowther for a term of ninety-nine years from the 28th October 1768, or for the lives of the second James Lowther, the Prince of Wales, now his present Majesty, and the Bishop of Osnaburgh; who is, as you know, the Duke of York—that is, the estate is good to Sir James Lowther or his successor for 99 years, or for the lives of those I have named. Sir J. Lowther is since dead, but the King and the Duke of York are alive, and the estate is to last for their lives. Now, Gentlemen, you shall hear the rent that is paid for these estates. It used to be 10s. a year—(A laugh) of late years it has been 379l. 8s. 4  $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

laugh.) It is for these three farthings that I always admired our Government so; they are so exact, so scrupulous, that they would not for the world omit carrying the farthings into the account.—(A laugh.) But, Gentlemen, I find indeed that there was paid on behalf of this estate in 1804 a matter of 1000*l*. Such are the terms on which is held an estate which I understand is worth 40,000*l*. to 50,000*l*. a year. I have heard so. I have heard it is worth a great deal. Is it not worth while then that the people should send some man into Parliament who understands these matters, who has the necessary knowledge, who has the resolution to bring them before the House of Commons, and the talent and skill to get attention to what he says there, and failing there, to induce the people to insist upon what is right being done?—(Cheers.) Gentlemen, I talked the other night to you of the splendid paupers. You will scarcely believe me when I tell you, I know I shall be accused for saying it—but it is a fact that we have some of these pensioners before they are born, and other pensioners after they are dead.—(A laugh.) This is extraordinary, it is nevertheless true. Gentlemen, the last war produced a great many comfortable things—things that will last all our life, if not stifled in time by some rude hand. Amongst other things it produced what is called the dead-weight—that is to say, payment to officers who served in the war. The United States of America, when their officers have done service, having been paid for what they did during the war, don't pay them anymore. Our Government does

the contrary of this, they pay their officers after the war is over. It gives so much half-pay to the officer who is single, and, by the by, an officer may become parson and have his half pay; that is one thing that it is ascertained he can do, but if he marries, then there is a pension to his wife in case of his death—and if she be in the family way, there is a pension in the like event to the child before it is in existence. All this because the father once served in the army during the war. Here is a premium on matrimony! Who would not marry an officer, whether he had whiskers or not—(loud laughter)? who would not marry one of them, even old or young? It is not clear to me, but it would be better for a woman to have the old one, for she has the premiums when he dies.—(A laugh.) So much for the pensioners before they are born. Now for the pensioners that we have after they are dead. Before the breaking out of that renowned French war which left us a debt, created by it, of eight hundred millions—before the commencement of that war, Burke, a Member of the House of Commons, one of the stuffed-in fellows for rotten boroughs, wrote a pamphlet urging to this war. He had a pension settled on him by the Government of 3000*l*. a year for his life. Did it end with his life? No faith, it was settled on his wife after his death, and for being this trumpet to the war, not only for their lives, but for those of three others after his death. One of his late Majesty's daughters, the Princess Amelia, was one life—she is dead. The Rev. Anchetyl Grey, brother to Lord Grey, was



another—he is, I believe, living; and Lord George Cavendish, I think, is the third—he is living. So that this terrible pamphlet writer has enjoyed this pension during his life, for no doubt the moment he got it, he went and sold it for a large sum—no doubt he sacked the money; but here we have to continue to pay it though he has been dead near twenty-seven years.—(Great cheers.) Is not this monstrous? Incredible as it is—hard to be believed as it is, I state it to you as a fact. I think they talk of the loyal shopkeepers—these loyal men in middle life, who are opposed to any change. Will they stand by and see their money taken from them for such purposes? Can such things as these be for the safety and good of the country? Is His Majesty a bit better off by reason of the existence of these things? Oh, no! Shall we see such instances of splendid paupers respected and regarded in society, without being indignant at the reproaches that are cast upon the poor paupers on account of inevitable poverty? Those executors of the 3000*l.* a-year, who are yet living, may live still much longer. Lord George Cavendish is not older than I am—he may live ten years—twenty, perhaps thirty years. We have paid the executors of Burke upwards of 70,000*l.* already—we have paid, I say, this base pamphlet writer—this trumpet of the war—this mischievous, hypocritical politician—we have not only paid him and his wife, and his executors since his death, but we have yet a score to pay, perhaps as great, and all for this mischievous pamphlet, which has been, as all gentlemen who have

read much, all literary men, well know, the cause of that war—a war which left a harassing debt that is ruining merchants and farmers—a war that entailed a load of taxes which are pressing down the working classes into all the miseries—into the lowest state of pauperism and degradation—of which human nature are susceptible.—(Cheers.) These are topics, Gentlemen, whose importance are of immense amount. You will be surprised at the statement which I make to you—you will be surprised to learn that such things existed, and that you had not heard them before. But they have existed—they will continue to exist until a remedy is applied. I believe, Gentlemen, that the nation is now in a state that is likely to produce some great change. It is impossible, in short, to go on without a great change. Every rational man must see that a change is the only thing that can save it from mischievous destructive anarchy; for, Gentlemen, a million of Englishmen will not tamely lie down, be content to starve, without making an effort to obtain food. Therefore, Gentlemen, I say it is the duty of every man, who feels that he has the capacity to be of assistance in applying the necessary remedy—it is his duty to offer himself to the people, in order that they may place him in that situation where he can give that assistance: and is it not equally the duty of the people when such a man does so offer himself, to do all in their power towards putting him in that situation? Now, Gentlemen, as to this election. In an ordinary case of an application of this sort—it is

case of a man offering himself some particular district, and no portion of electors for their probation and support. In this case it is not an individual that is pressing upon you and requesting that you will do him the honour to send him to Parliament as your representative—but it is a very large part of the nation, a very large part indeed, that is wishing to express that wish that this election should terminate in the way that they know will be beneficial to the country. From one end of the kingdom to the other—every district, in every parish, the people are looking to the electors of Preston to see what their conduct will be on this occasion—I am looking to see if they will do that which will give the country a chance of escaping from a continuance of those difficulties under which she is groaning. I request you, Gentlemen, to bear these things in your recollection—some evening, when we have more ease and light, I will read for you an address which has been sent me directed to you from Bolton, exhorting you to choose me; other addresses will follow from various parts of the country—in Yorkshire, Glasgow, Paisley,

But my answer to all these exhortations is—"The people of Preston see what is their duty, and seeing it are determined to do it."

I wish you, Gentlemen, good night.

The multitude, before separating, gave three cheers.

### MANCHESTER, JUNE 6.

The Markets here to-day have been very dull, and there are but few buyers in town. The market for cotton, both raw and in yarn, is what is termed *flat*, and the *material* in particular, is at lingering and declining prices. In short, there is no demand, the buyers holding off in expectation of a considerable and speedy reduction. Stout calicoes are offered at 6s., supers from 5s. to 8s., and velveteens 30s. wett, at 22d. cash. A gentleman from Yorkshire has asserted, in my hearing, that, for the last six months, he has not cleared his coach fare. Prints are selling at from 35s. to 11s., and the printing branch is supposed to be doing better than any other. Of London and country purchasers there are but few in town, and those not very eager to lay in stocks. We have, however, Lawrence of London, Morgan of Bristol, James of Hull, Collingham of Lincoln, Wilson of Birmingham, and Middlemost of Shields, and some others, whose names I have not yet been able to ascertain.

There is a general persuasion here, that Mr. Cobbet will be returned for Preston. It has been stated to-day, from respectable authority, that Mr. Horrocks and his partners have declared their intention of voting for Mr. Cobbett and Stanley: and the reason which they assign is, that if they *must* have a reformer, they will support none but a radical one—none but one who is *competent* to discharge the duties of a representative.

## MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending May 27.

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	57	4	Rye ....	35	0
Barley ..	28	2	Beans ...	37	6
Oats ....	23	5	Pease ...	37	0

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended May 27.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	27,867	Rye ....	398
Barley ..	6,023	Beans ...	1,930
Oats ...	16,663	Pease ...	140

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, May 27.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat..	4,598	for 13,924	11	6	Average, 60	6
Barley..	1,247	.. 1,827	17	2	.....	29 3
Oats..	10,741	.. 13,915	16	9	.....	25 10
Rye....	102	.. 157	4	6	.....	30 9
Beans..	1,402	.... 2,685	15	4	.....	38 3
Pease ..	163	.... 309	5	9	.....	37 11

Friday, June 2.—There have been moderate arrivals of all descriptions of Grain this week. The prime parcels of Wheat alone meet a fair demand at Monday's terms; other sorts are very dull, and nearly unsaleable. Barley, Beans, and Pease, are without alteration. Oats find so few buyers, that they appear to be declining in value.

Monday, June 5.—The supplies of most kinds of Grain last week

were moderate, and this morning the fresh samples of Wheat from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, are not considerable, and of Barley, Beans, and Pease, the quantity is trifling, but of Oats the arrival is tolerably good. The letting out the bonded Corn has made the Wheat trade heavy; that of fine quality obtains the terms of this day se'nnight; other descriptions are dull and nearly unsaleable.

In Barley there is little doing, at last week's prices. Beans and Pease are scarce, and sell freely at last quotations. Fine sweet Oats sell only in small quantities, at the terms of last week. All other descriptions are a trifle lower, with many parcels unsold. There is rather more life in the trade for fresh made Flour.

The entries of the bonded Corn are now making at the Custom-house, half the quantities may be entered between the present time and the 1st of July, and the other half between that period and the 16th of August. Whatever portion is not entered by that period, will remain subject to the old Corn Law.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack .....	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	42s. — 46s.
— North Country ..	40s. — 43s.

## COAL MARKET, June 2.

*Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.*

60 Newcastle..	33½ 26s. 0d. to 34s. 6d.
16 Sunderland..	13 31s. 0d. — 35s. 9d.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from May 29 to June 3, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	4,155	Tares ....	302
Barley ..	300	Linseed ..	410
Malt....	5,845	Rapeseed .	—
Oats ....	14,320	Brank ..	—
Beans ...	828	Mustard ..	—
Flour....	6,735	Flax ....	—
Rye.....	—	Hemp ...	—
Pease....	78	Seeds ....	—

Foreign.—Wheat, 3,359; Barley, 21; and Oats, 18,364 quarters.

Monday, June 5.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 10 firkins of Butter, and 698 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports, 4,574 casks of Butter.

## HOPS.

Price per Cwt. in the Borough:

Monday, June 5.—The bines generally are growing fast, and the flies increasing in some districts. In the counties of Worcester and Hereford, ten to twenty flies on a leaf are reported. Prices are stationary.

Maidstone, June 1.—The Hopbines keep growing, and look particularly strong and well. There are some reports of the fly, but at present we do not consider them of much consequence.

Worcester, May 31.—On Saturday 215 pockets were weighed. The prices of last week were scarcely maintained. The accounts from our plantation state, that the fly has in-

creased in some situations, while in others there is very little complaint; the plant grows rapidly. The duty of the kingdom has gone down from 140,000*l.* to 120,000*l.*

SMITHFIELD, Monday, June 5.

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	4	0	to	5 2
Mutton ...	4	0	—	4 8
Veal .....	5	0	—	5 6
Pork .....	4	8	—	5 4
Lamb .....	5	4	—	6 2

Beasts ...	1,840	Sheep ..	18,080
Calves ...	249	Pigs ...	150

NEWGATE, (same day.)

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 2
Veal ....	3	8	—	5 8
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 6
Lamb ....	4	0	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 2
Mutton ...	3	8	—	4 2
Veal .....	3	8	—	5 4
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 4
Lamb ....	3	8	—	5 8

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4*lb.* Loaf is stated at 9½*d.* by the full-priced Bakers.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware .....	£4	0	to	6	0
Middlings.....	0	0	—	0	0
Chats .....	2	15	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.				

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware .....	£4	10	to	5	10
Middlings.....	3	0	—	3	10
Chats .....	2	10	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....	70s.	to	90s.
Straw...	34s.	to	38s.
Clover..	80s.	to	110s.
St. James's.—Hay....	68s.	to	105s.
Straw..	30s.	to	44s.
Clover..	90s.	to	110s.
Whitechapel.—Hay....	66s.	to	92s.
Straw...	38s.	to	42s.
Clover..	84s.	to	110s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

*The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.*

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.
	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s. to s. d.
Aylesbury .....	52	60 0	33	36 0	28	30 0	40	44 0	0 0 0
Banbury .....	54	59 0	28	32 0	26	31 0	40	44 0	0 0 0
Basingstoke ....	54	66 0	0	0 0	22	27 0	45	50 0	0 0 0
Bridport .....	54	56 0	30	0 0	20	22 0	46	52 0	0 0 0
Chelmsford.....	52	68 0	28	32 0	26	32 0	32	36 0	36 39 0
Derby .....	58	64 0	28	34 0	25	30 0	42	46 0	0 0 0
Devizes .....	58	62 0	28	35 0	26	32 0	40	52 0	0 0 0
Dorchester .....	52	62 0	25	29 0	22	27 0	42	48 0	0 0 0
Exeter .....	60	64 0	34	38 0	23	28 0	28	32 0	0 0 0
Eye .....	52	56 0	26	30 0	24	28 0	36	0 0	38 0 0
Guildford .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Henley .....	63	72 0	30	0 0	24	30 0	40	46 0	39 45 0
Horncastle .....	52	56 0	24	26 0	20	23 0	35	40 0	34 36 0
Hungerford.....	53	65 0	22	33 0	20	30 0	40	54 0	0 0 0
Lewes .....	56	58 0	0	0 0	23	25 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Newbury .....	44	66 0	27	30 0	23	32 0	44	48 0	42 0 0
Northampton....	52	58 0	31	32 0	24	25 0	40	44 0	0 0 0
Nottingham ....	57	0 0	29	0 0	25	0 0	43	0 0	0 0 0
Reading .....	56	75 0	28	34 0	19	27 0	44	50 0	43 50 0
Stamford .....	45	59 0	29	30 0	23	25 0	33	38 6	0 0 0
Stowmarket ....	48	58 0	24	30 0	24	28 0	34	38 0	0 0 0
Swansea .....	64	0 0	28	0 0	24	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Truro .....	67	0 0	35	0 0	29	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Uxbridge .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Warminster.....	48	60 0	25	35 0	22	26 0	44	54 0	0 0 0
Winchester .....	57	0 0	28	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0
Dalkeith* .....	27	32 0	19	23 0	17	21 0	17	19 0	16 18 0
Haddington* ....	25	31 0	18	24 0	15	21 6	16	20 0	16 20 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

*Liverpool*, May 30.—Since Tuesday last the importations have again been pretty extensive, and that of Oats from Ireland somewhat considerable, the demand for which continued steady throughout the week, at about the prices last noted, as also for other descriptions of Grain, Flour, Meal, &c. This day's market was well attended, when foreign Wheat, which was expected to be released from bond, was purchased at a small reduction in value, whilst a few parcels of new Irish Wheats were taken up at an advance of 1d. per 70 lbs. The supply of Oats being large, this article experienced a decline of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per 45 lbs. The crops of Grass and Spring Corn must now be suffering injury for many miles around this, in the extreme want of rain nearly throughout the present month, in the course of which but a few partial showers have fallen.

Imported into Liverpool from the 23d to 29th May, 1826, include:—Wheat, 3,318; Barley, 81; Oats, 15,318; Rye, 67; Malt, 37; and Beans, 289 quarters. Flour, 248 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 1,823 sacks, per 240 lbs. Flour, Europe, 248 barrels.

*Guildford*, June 3.—Wheat, new, for meal, 14l. to 18l. 10s. per load. Rye, 31s. to 36s.; Oats, 26s. to 34s.; Beans, 42s. to 49s.; and Peas, 46s. to 50s. per quarter. Tares, 8s. 3d. per bushel.

*Norwich*, June 2.—We had a very large supply of Wheat at market to-day, more than equal to the demand. Red sold from 48s. to 56s.; White to 58s.; Barley but little offered for sale, prices 22s. to 27s.; Oats, 28s. to 36s.; Beans, 36s. to 39s.; Peas, 37s. to 40s. per quarter; and Flour, 44s. per sack.

*Bristol*, June 3.—The Corn Markets at this place continue extremely dull. The sales effected are few, at the prices below quoted:—Wheat from 9d. to 7s. 3d.; Barley, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; Oats, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 4d.; Beans, 5s. 6d.; and Malt, 4s. 6d. to 7s. 1d. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, 30s. to 45s. per bag.

*Exeter*, June 3.—We had to-day a fair supply of all Corn, and prices as much as last week, as follow:—Wheat, 54s. to 61s.; Barley, 24s. to 28s.; and Beans, 38s. to 40s. per quarter.

*Vakefield*, June 2.—We have again a short supply of Wheat fresh up river, but there is a slender attendance of buyers, and the market has been very dull at a decline of 1s. per quarter upon all descriptions, and a little demand for middling samples, the Millers generally preferring to wait until that in hand is liberated, half of which is expected to be sold to-morrow, and the remainder in July. Beans are without variation.—Wheat, Red, 47s. to 61s.; White, 50s. to 64s. per 60lbs.; Barley, 28s. to 29s. per quarter; Beans, old, 40s. to 43s.; new, 37s. to 40s. per 63lbs.; Oats, Meal, new, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per stone; Shelling, 31s. to 33s.; and Malt, 32s. to 40s. per load. Flour, fine, 45s. to 47s. per sack of 280lbs. Rapeseed, 17l. to 19l. per last.

*Manchester*, June 3.—Since our last there has been a pretty fair demand for leading articles in the trade, at our quotations of this day notwithstanding; still the weight of business transacted has been heavy, as purchases have been chiefly confined to necessitous buyers. With the exception of Oats, which are 1d. per bushel lower, our quotations may be considered nominal.—Wheat, English, 56s. 3d. to 68s. 7d.; Irish, 53s. 8d. to 65s. 1d.; Foreign, 60s. 7d.; Barley, 26s. 8d. to 30s.; Oats, Irish, 22s. 6d. to 30s. 2d.; Beans, English, 46s. to 48s.; Peas, 44s. to 56s. per quarter, Winchester; Beans, English, 46s. to 48s.; Peas, 44s. to 46s. per quarter, 63lbs. per bushel; Malt, 34s. to 43s. per load, Imperial bushels; Flour, 38s. to 49s. per bag of 280lbs.; Oatmeal, English, 32s. to 34s.; Irish, 26s. to 32s. per load of 240 lbs.; Bran, broad, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3d. per 20 lbs.

## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, June 3.—We had only a moderate supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, prices 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. The supply of all sorts of Store Stock was very great. Scots sold from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone when fat; Short Horns 5s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. per stone. Cows and Calves sell but slowly; Homebreds of all sorts far from brisk. Pigs in great plenty, and a slow sale.

*Horncastle*, June 3.—Beef, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 9d.; Pork, 6d.; and Veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

*Manchester*, May 31.—Cattle, which were in short supply, sold readily at last week's prices. The show of Sheep and Lambs being large, caused them to move off slowly at a little decline in price.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, the 31st ult., there was a great supply of Cattle; and there being a good many buyers, fat sold readily, but inferior stood long. A short supply of Sheep and Lambs, which met with ready sale; prices much the same.—Beef, from 5s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.; Mutton, 7s. to 8s.; and Lamb, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended May 27, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	60	5	27	4	23	2
Essex .....	60	0	28	10	26	4
Kent.....	60	1	30	6	25	8
Sussex.....	56	11	29	6	24	8
Suffolk .....	55	10	28	9	27	1
Cambridgeshire.....	51	0	27	6	22	4
Norfolk .....	52	7	25	4	25	0
Lincolnshire .....	55	2	25	9	21	6
Yorkshire .....	53	7	25	0	20	9
Durham .....	66	6	0	0	28	3
Northumberland .....	51	4	31	6	23	4
Cumberland .....	61	8	29	10	23	3
Westmoreland .....	63	1	37	0	24	1
Lancashire.....	61	9	0	0	24	6
Cheshire .....	60	10	44	1	25	11
Gloucestershire.....	58	8	32	8	26	3
Somersetshire .....	58	8	32	6	21	5
Monmouthshire.....	57	2	38	8	26	4
Devonshire.....	61	0	30	10	21	10
Cornwall.....	63	7	31	10	25	5
Dorsetshire .....	55	10	28	7	24	10
Hampshire .....	54	6	30	5	23	6
North Wales .....	62	3	32	11	21	6
South Wales .....	57	10	28	6	18	8

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

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## TO THE READERS OF THE REGISTER.

London, June 14, 1826.

THE proceedings at Preston, as taken from the *Morning Herald*, will account to Mr. Cobbett's friends for the absence of all original matter in this week's Register. Mr. Cobbett's prospects of final success, are greater than ever, *provided* his voters have access to the poll. At all events, it is Mr. Cobbett's intention to keep the poll open to the very last moment.

Preston, 10th June.

In the course of this evening Mr. Cobbett issued the following paper:—

## TO THE ELECTORS OF PRESTON.

Castle Inn, Saturday, 10th June, 1826.

GENTLEMEN,

THE state of things is this:—Young HORROCKS was pressed to come forward to join STANLEY, and thus to revive and keep alive in these young ones, that COALITION which had, for so many years, deprived you of your rights. But the HORROCKSES (for some cause or other) would not venture on this undertaking, at this time.

Yet to keep me out, if possible, SOMETHING must be done, some man must be found, some scheme must be resorted to. Down, therefore, comes a man, who calls himself a *Captain*, but who is “a resident commissioner at Kingston in Upper Canada.” Who it is that has sent him you may easily guess, when you know that the LONDON COURIER newspaper announced him as a candidate several days ago. If he were elected, he would set off to Canada, and live in splendour upon taxes taken out of your earnings.

The few votes that this man

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]



could get would be nothing, but **STANLEY** has clearly *coalesced with him*. The first tally that came up for this "resident commissioner" voted, every man, for **BARRIE** and **STANLEY**, and young Horrocks was *one of this tally*. The second tally for **BARRIE** did the same thing; and three votes in Stanley's second tallies were split between him and Barrie. The lawyers of these two candidates assist each other openly; and, in short, it is as clear as day-light, that there is a *coalition between these two candidates*. Stanley, who cannot deny the fact, says that it is the work of *his committee*, and *not of him*; that is to say, he does the thing with his tools, and not with his hands. **STANLEY** began by most solemnly protesting against putting the *Catholic Oath*; but this **BARRIE** comes and puts it; and though he does this, *Stanley splits votes with him*! What shameful hypocrisy! And now mark the piety of **STANLEY**. He protested against putting the oath; but he knew well that his friend, the commissioner, would put it; and, *knowing this*, he, in his speech of Friday, **BEGGED AND PRAYED OF THE CATHOLICS NOT TO TAKE THE OATH!!!** I beg you to **MARK THAT** well. Why should this young blade be so very anxious about the *consciences* of the Catholics? Could he not have left their souls to the care of themselves and their priests? Pray watch him here: he scorns to put the oath; he calls it an act of *oppression and cruelty*; but he *splits votes with a man that does cause it to be put*; and then he does all that he possibly can do,

and almost assumes the office of father confessor, in order to prevent the Catholics from *taking the oath*; that is to say, *to prevent them from voting*! The fact is this, and you know it well, that he knew that *nearly, if not quite all, the Catholics would have voted for me*, not many of them for him, and none for any body else. This is the real motive of his conduct. His main object, as well as that of the **CANADA COMMISSIONER** and of **WOOD** is *to keep me out*; but in this they will be defeated in spite of every trick that they can play.

Before the Canada Commissioner came, the scheme appears to have been this:—to get Stanley's votes to split with **WOOD**. This was what their canvassers were endeavouring to effect for several days before the arrival of the Canada Commissioner. But this could not have been effected; and it was clearly seen that, if the Catholics were permitted to vote; it was clearly seen that, if the oppressive and cruel oath was not imposed upon them, I must be elected. This was clearly seen at Preston. The news spread all round the country. It soon reached *London*; and there it was that the scheme was hatched for sending down the Canada Commissioner, in order that he might put the Catholic oath, and thus prevent me from being elected, as it was thought in London. It had been represented there, that my strength *lay wholly in the Catholics*. This was a very great mistake. I stood one-third above Stanley, and three-fourths above **WOOD**, *even without the Catholics*. In my canvass books I never put *the Catholics down as votes*; for I

was sure that the oath would be put; I was sure that something or other, and that every thing would be attempted in order to keep me out. I know that some Catholics think one way and some another way about this oath; some think that they ought to take it, and some think that they ought not; but, in order not to deceive myself, I never reckoned upon the vote of any Catholic at all; for, as I said before, though Stanley and Wood had both pledged themselves not to put the oath, I was well satisfied that some one would be found to put it. It has now been put: and the sole object in putting it, has been, as I said before, *to keep me out.*

I beg you to bear this in mind, and to be upon your guard and prepared to defeat this abominable coalition. As things now stand, with four new candidates, STANLEY may be pushed on by his combination with the CANADA COMMISSIONER; but then the Canada Commissioner must drop back. WOOD will have run himself pretty nearly out in four or five days; the Canada Commissioner will then be cast aside, I dare say: and Stanley will split votes with Wood, in the hope of effecting the great object which all the parties have in view; namely, that of keeping me out; and I am very certain that Wood thinks that, if he could assist in effecting this purpose, the Ministers would give him some fat post, if they did not make him a judge.

I sincerely believe this to be his opinion. I do not mind his calling himself a Radical. He may call himself what he pleases; but I know this, that I offered myself for Preston before he did; that

he knew that very well; and that he has now been doing every thing in his power to keep me out. He has talked about the inviolability of *promises*. Young Horrocks could talk just in the same style. In order to get you to vote for Stanley and Wood young Horrocks said that he looked upon the promises made to them as being inviolable: but, the moment the Canada Commissioner came, this same young Horrocks called upon you to vote for him in spite of all promises; and he set you the example by voting in the Canada Commissioner's first tally. Wood obtained promises from some persons after he knew of my intention to offer myself; he obtained these promises after he knew that I had accepted of a requisition; but he took care to *keep that circumstance secret* from the persons who gave the promises. It was his duty, as a fair acting man, to tell every body that he asked for a vote that I was coming. He told this to nobody; he disguised the fact; he obtained the promise under a false colour; he knew that he could stand no chance, if the voters knew that I was coming; he, therefore, obtained the promise unjustly. He did not actually tell a falsehood; but, he knowingly suffered a falsehood to be believed; he suffered the voters of Preston to be kept in the dark with regard to me; he tacitly assisted in deceiving them: he obtained their promises by a *tacit deception*; and, yet, he has the assurance to call it "*unprincipled and base*" not to adhere to the promises so obtained from the voters by deception. He talks, indeed, of "*false colours!*" His

have been false colours from the beginning. He accuses me of breach of pledge made before the Mayor. Never did I make such a pledge. I heard them talk, when I was at the council room, about men *jumping* over a bar out of one box into another box. I never had seen the place of voting. I could not know what this jumping meant. I observed that men must do what they liked about jumping. The Mayor showed me that I had no power to prevent it; and therefore, I gave no pledge—and I could give no pledge upon the subject. Men, who have been so vilely deceived, and who see that there is a combination amongst all the candidates to keep me out at all events, have a clear right to resort to the use of means *such as their enemies employ*. Especially when these poor men are exposed in the manner that they are, to all sorts of injuries and of hardships, in consequence of their adherence to me.

Wood's malignity towards me, and his desire to curry favour with the other candidates was manifested this morning at the hustings, when he had the baseness to accuse me of being an advocate for slavery; and expressly said, that I was an advocate for laying on the lash. I have challenged the calumniator to the proof. I stated to his face that he had uttered a falsehood; he hanged his head, and uttered not a word in reply. I was sitting down out of sight, at the back of the hustings, when he made this assertion. He thought I was gone away. He impudently interfered to make this false assertion. When I came forward to the front of the hustings, and, challenging him to the proof, looked him in the face, his eye-

lids dropped, and he remained silent as a post. This is what I say about negro-slavery; I hate slavery of all sorts: I have lived in countries where there are black slaves; but I never would suffer one that was a slave to do any sort of work for me. I am of opinion, that sugar, coffee, and several other things, are not to be had without this negro-slavery; whether we are to do without these articles and get rid of our colonies, are questions not to be decided in haste; but, at any rate, before I go about the world looking for black slaves to emancipate, I will endeavour to emancipate all the white slaves I know of in the world, particularly those in England, where [the farming labourers are much harder worked and much worse fed than any black slaves that I ever saw in my life. This is what I say about negro-slavery, but I have never mentioned the subject in my life without deprecating every species of cruelty exercised towards the slaves, and without expressing my wish that the slavery did not exist. This very Mr. Wood knows, or I think he must know, that it is not long since I published a book for the express purpose of pointing out to the reprobation of Englishmen the cruelty of the Americans, and the inconsistency of their conduct, in allowing the slave-trade to be carried on in their country. Many copies of this book were sold at Liverpool. It is now to be had there, I dare say, at the shop of Mr. Thomas Smith; and yet this man comes before you, and, thinking that he is behind my back, tells you that I am an advocate for slavery and for the use of the lash.

This act alone ought to be suffi-

cient to convince you, that he means to make a merit with the government for having opposed me to the utmost of his power. He is, you perceive, upon terms of great harmony with Stanley and with the Canada Commissioner. He does not quarrel with them. His lawyers and their lawyers play into one another's hands. His lawyer and the Canada Commissioner's lawyer are brothers. In short, it must be clear to every man of sense, that his object is to keep me out at all events; and that he thinks that pretty nearly as likely to benefit him as the getting of himself in.

Thus stands the case, gentlemen, these parties all know how well pleased those in power would be, to see me defeated here; and each of the three is at this moment counting upon the benefit which he shall derive in the way of reward, for having contributed his endeavours towards effecting this purpose. This reward it is that they all have their eyes upon; and I trust that your conduct will be such as to defeat the object of the base combination. You have nothing to do but to remain steady to that which you know to be right. You understand the whole subject as well as I do. You now see that each of the original candidates has got an associate candidate. You will know how to manage that matter. Be ready; be steady; be prudent; be resolved, and you will prevent this combination from effecting its purpose, and from assisting to continue to rob you of your dinners and your clothes. For my own part no exertion of mine shall be wanting; and if there be any man amongst you that is punished in

any way for the conscientious performance of his duty, I pledge myself, upon receiving proof of such punishment having been inflicted to take care that provision shall be made for that man and his family.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most faithful friend,

And obedient servant,

WM. COBBETT.

# PROTESTS TO THE MAYOR, &c.

## No. I.

*To Nicholas Grimshaw, Mayor, and to the other Returning Officers of the Borough of Preston, in the County of Lancaster.*

Gentlemen, — I hereby protest against your proceedings in the Election, now going on in this Borough, for Members to serve in Parliament. Divers are those acts of yours to which I have objected, and do object; but, for the present, I confine myself to the following grounds of complaint; that is to say,

That you have adopted a mode of polling, called polling by tallies, which is unknown to the law; that, though I, after having, at first, objected to it, gave my assent, that assent was given, only in consideration of an express declaration of all the then candidates, that the Oath of Supremacy was not to be put; but, that you have persevered in this mode of tallies, after a fourth candidate has come, and after you have caused that oath to be put to the voters.

That you have made use of this mode of tallies, and are proceeding to continue to make use of it, in a way which must of necessity deprive the Electors of their rights, and which must pervert all the powers of the Writ, under the authority of which you are now acting.

That you have permitted a species of examination of voters, by attorneys and others, obviously tending to no other purpose than that of causing delay, and of preventing the main body of the electors from voting at this election.

That you have permitted these attorneys to put to the Electors endless questions wholly unconnected with the right of voting; that you have permitted these attorneys to brow-beat the Electors, whom you have suffered these attorneys to treat as criminals, arraigned at your bar, rather than as men exercising a great and valuable franchise; that you have kept some of them nearly two whole hours under a hot sun, thus baited and worried by these attorneys; that you have not, in any one case, checked these attorneys in these their audacious practices, and that you have wholly disregarded all my remonstrances upon this subject.

That this Borough contained, at the time of the last election (in 1820) three thousand two hundred and six voters, who actually voted, and who gave six thousand two hundred and three votes.

That the number of Electors is, at present, much greater than it was in 1820; but that, supposing it to be no greater, you, by your present mode of proceeding, would deprive nearly two thirds of them of their franchises.

That you have declared *eight hours* in each day to be the time for keeping open the poll; that, on Saturday last, the 10th instant, you employed seven hours in polling eighty electors; that two days out of the fifteen days are now gone, and that only *one hundred and sixty* electors have been permitted to come to the poll; that there are, according to your regulation, but 104 hours left to poll in; that, at the rate of eighty men to seven hours, you would, by the end of fifteen days, have permitted to come to the poll only 1,343 electors out of the many more than 3,206 who have now a right to vote;

that of the more than 2,000 Protestant electors, whom I am able to prove have promised me their votes, you would, by this plan, permit me, during the whole election, to poll only 337, though I have more than double that number now actually ready to poll for me this very day; that you might, by pursuing this scheme, wind up your proceedings by excluding me, and by returning a man, who it is notorious, has scarcely any votes at all for him; and that, thus, you might render that Writ, which you have received under the Great Seal, a mere mockery, while you would insult both the Parliament and the King.

That the character and tendency of your proceedings are illustrated by those of the Election of 1820, when, though there was only a room in the Town-Hall for a place of polling, instead of the ample space now allotted for that purpose, 105 votes were polled on the first day, 178 on the second day, and, on one of the days, 418, while you, at the end of two days, have polled only 160 votes.

That, on Saturday, the 10th instant, ten Electors, having been duly sworn (and making part of thirty then sworn, and waiting to poll,) came up and delivered their names into your hands, and demanded to poll; that this was at half-past three o'clock; that the court had then been open only six hours and a half; that, nevertheless, you refused, to receive the votes of these electors; that you kept them waiting before your face on the platform, made and kept apart for the votes; that they demanded to be polled, and that I made the same demand in their behalf; that you continued your refusal until four o'clock; that you then adjourned the court without suffering these men to poll, having, in fact, kept it open only six hours and a half, and having shut it against these voters, whom you kept standing in a hot sun from half-past three to four o'clock.

That it being, from these facts,

and many others, not necessary now to state, clear as day-light, that, if your present system be persevered in, the result may be a return, having the appearance of truth, and being false in fact; that a man who has but a very few votes may be returned, and that I, who have a great majority of the whole of the votes, and who was declared to be elected by the show of hands, may be totally excluded.

This being the case, and this case being manifest to every beholder, I hereby protest against all your proceedings as above-mentioned; and scorning to give countenance to your system by any further presenting of tallies, and leaving the injured electors to adopt, in defence of their rights, such means as they may think best, I hereby give you notice, that any return that you may make, as the result of your present system of proceeding, will be objected to, and resisted by me, according to the manner and by the means which the law has pointed out and provided.

W. COBBETT.

*At the Hustings, at Preston,  
June 12, 1826.*

## NO. II.

*Preston, June 12, 1826.*

*To Nicholas Grimshaw, Esq.,  
Mayor, and Joseph Bray and  
William Nicholson, Esqrs. Bailiffs,  
Returning Officers for the  
Borough of Preston.*

Gentlemen,—As one of the Candidates for the Representation of this Borough in the ensuing Parliament, I beg hereby to enter my Protest against the manner in which the proceedings at the present Election have hitherto been carried on.

By the constitution of the Borough recognised by the decision of a Committee of the House of Commons, the right of electing Members is, with certain limitations, vested in the whole body of the inhabitants; but, according to the mode of election which has been

adopted on the present occasion, it is not only very possible, but most probable, that, although the Poll be kept open to the last hour allowed by law, a vast majority of the electors will be deprived of an opportunity of exercising the highest privilege, which they, as Englishmen, possess. This, to say the least, is contrary to the spirit of the law which contemplates the time allowed to be sufficient for all the electors to tender their votes.

In the first place, the mode of voting by tallies is productive of great inconvenience. On the afternoon of Saturday last, before half past three o'clock, a tally was presented at the bar of the hustings by one of the candidates for the purpose of being admitted to poll, but was then and there by you refused to be so admitted. In making this assertion, I would not be understood to charge you with acting from any partial or unworthy motive; on the contrary, I am anxious to suppose you to be actuated by the desire of exercising the strictest impartiality. But this sort of impartiality is in its effects an act of positive injustice to the whole body of the electors, more particularly to the individuals composing that tally, who possibly may not have an opportunity of again tendering their votes during the present election, as well as an actual breach of the law in stopping the business of the poll before the number of hours limited by the statute were expired.

In the next place, great and unnecessary delay has been occasioned by the manner in which the examinations of the votes are conducted by the advocates of the respective candidates. Questions have been permitted to be put to the electors not only frivolous and irrelevant, but, in many instances, insulting to those to whom they are put and disgraceful to those by whom they are proposed. As one, among many instances in support of my assertion, on Saturday last an elector in the

tally of a gentleman on the left (Mr. Wood,) to whose vote there appeared to be no reasonable ground of objection, was detained half an hour in answering questions which seemed to be put not so much for the purpose of developing the truth, as of alarming and confounding the party so questioned.

Under these circumstances it is that I now demand, on behalf of the electors of this Borough, and of myself as a candidate for the suffrages of those electors, that you forthwith take the necessary steps for doing that which the spirit of the law evidently contemplates; namely, for allowing to every one of them a reasonable chance of tendering his vote within the time limited by law, and thereby enabling them to confer on those whom they think fittest and best the important trust to guard their rights and redress their wrongs.

(Signed) T. B. BEEVOR.

### No. III.

#### *To the Mayor, &c.*

Gentlemen—In spite of my protest of this morning, you persevered in that line of proceeding, of which I did, and still do, complain. You have persevered in keeping back the electors who are ready to vote for me; and you now cause tallies of four to vote instead of tallies of ten. You continue to permit the system of brow-beating and of procrastination, and, in short, I deem the whole of your proceedings contrary to law. I, therefore, again protest against these your proceedings, and I hereby give you notice, that if you make any return as the result of these proceedings, I shall oppose it by all those means which the law has provided for the purpose.

WM. COBBETT.

### No. IV.

#### *To the Mayor and other Returning Officers of the Borough of Preston, the Protest of the undersigned Electors of the said Borough,*

Showeth,

That the illegality of voting by tallies has been acknowledged this day in the act of the Mayor and other returning officers, who, in consequence of the Protest of Mr. Cobbett, ordered an instant cessation of the voting by tallies.

That, however, the mode adopted, instead of the mode which has been set aside, has in it all the unfairness, and all the other evil consequences of the system of voting in tallies.

That the great evil complained of in the tally-system was, that it prevented the candidate who had numerous votes from bringing them to the poll, by making his voters wait until an equal number of the voters of another candidate might be brought up.

That this evil system, this piece of monstrous partiality, is now practised as much as it was before; for, there are still four different approaches to the polling-bar; that at these approaches constables are stationed to keep all persons back, except such as are about to poll for the candidates respectively, to which the said approaches are allotted.

That, from these approaches, four voters at a time are admitted to the polling-bar; so that Mr. Cobbett, who has probably two thousand voters to bring up, can poll no faster than Captain Barrie or Mr. Wood, neither of whom has probably four hundred voters to bring up; and thus, with

a little assistance of the attorneys, Mr. Cobbett, who has such an immense majority of the votes, may be, and is manifestly intended to be, not only kept at the bottom of the poll, but may finally lose his election, with a great mass of voters unpolled.

That we solemnly protest against this partial and foul mode of proceeding; we demand that there be adopted such regulations as will ensure to all the voters the exercise of their right of voting; and for that purpose we demand that more polling clerks be appointed to receive the votes of the electors as they present themselves at their respective booths.

As witness our hands this twelfth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

(Signed) John Iwin.  
Jas. Whittaker.  
James Todd.  
John Calderbank.  
Peter Hartley.  
John Shepherd.  
John Mawdsley.  
Rich. Bradshaw.  
Thos. Porter.  
Joseph Airey.  
Wm. Houghton.  
John Dickenson.  
James Newton.  
Geo. Borthhouse.

#### No. V.

*To Nicholas Grimshaw, the Mayor, and to the other Returning Officers of the Borough of Preston.*

The PROTEST of me, WILLIAM COBBETT, one of the Candidates at the Election, now going on in the said Borough,

Showeth,

That in consequence of my protest delivered in yesterday morning, you,

in words, put a stop to the illegal deceptions and dilatory mode of polling by tallies; but that you then adopted another mode not less illegal and deceptive, and still more dilatory, which mode is fully described, and most justly complained of in a protest, delivered to you, at o'clock, and signed by a body of the ancient and insulted Electors.

That during the whole of yesterday, there were polled only sixty voters for all the Candidates put together, and that at this rate of going on, the remaining twelve days would see polled only 720 voters, who, together with the 208 now polled, would make only 928 voters polled in the whole, and leaving at the close of the election about 3,500 voters unpolled.

That yesterday morning, hoping that you would have suffered the polling to proceed in earnest, I had several hundred voters ready to come up during the day, and there were 130 of them actually sworn, and waiting with their certificates in their hands for the purpose of being polled; but that of these 130 men, you permitted only sixteen to come up to be polled, while you caused the rest to be kept back from the polling bar by the actual force of constables and others, acting under your authority.

That I now hold in my hand, which I tender for your inspection, (you agreeing to deliver them back to me within the space of an hour), certificates of electors ready to poll for me, which certificates form a body of evidence against your proceedings, of the character of which proceedings this evidence can leave not a shadow of doubt in the mind of any man of common sense.

That when, yesterday morning, I demanded a cessation of the dilatory and deceptive scheme of voting by tallies, and when you found it necessary to yield to my demand, you, in a tone of great anger, said, that if this change should give rise to any acts of violence, you would call in a military force, which force you had



constantly ready for the purpose of being called in by you; so that because I and my voters demanded an election according to law, you instantly threatened us with a military force.

That, in the evening of yesterday, a military force was called in, though there was no riot in the town, and though there was no shadow of excuse for the appearance of this force, except the breaking of the windows of the inn of one of the candidates who had brought sailors into the town from Liverpool, for purposes too manifest to mention, and who had, in his way, declared war against the peaceable inhabitants of the town.

That I can perceive no use for these soldiers, except that of terrifying my voters, and preventing them from exercising their rights; that I am convinced that you believe, that I have for me a great majority of the legal voters; and I am also convinced that you believe, that unless I can be made to give up the contest in disgust at your proceedings, or unless the military force, and other violent means shall be employed, so as to alarm my voters and prevent them from polling, or unless they be wearied out by being kept from their homes and their work, and prevent them from polling, I shall be chosen by a vast majority; and the whole of your conduct, from first to last, shows to me, but too clearly, that you most anxiously wish to prevent such a result.

That at the election, 1813, when Dr. Crompton was a candidate, and when the present Mayor was also Mayor, there were polled, even by tallies, 800 men in one day, and in no one day so small a number as the number now polled in the three days; so that here is a proof of the existence of the very extraordinary impediments upon the present occasion.

That seeing all these things, and many others of a similar character, I hereby, in the first place, demand that you send the military force out

of the town. In the next place, I again protest against all your above-mentioned unjust and illegal proceedings, and I protest against any return that you may make as the result of these proceedings.

WM. COBBETT.

*At the Hustings,  
June 13.*

## PROCEEDINGS AT PRESTON.

[From the Morning Herald, June 10.]

*Preston, June 8.*

The three candidates met yesterday at the Town-Hall, by invitation of the Mayor, for the purpose of fixing on the arrangements to be observed during the election. They all became excellent friends in a short time, and every proposition made by Mr. Mayor was assented to unanimously. First of all, would the Oath of Supremacy be tendered to the electors? Certainly not, agreed all the candidates. Who is to have first choice of a place at the hustings? They drew lots—Mr. Cobbett won. Who is first to be proposed? Lots again, and Mr. Cobbett won. They then agreed that the voters should be brought up in tallies, that is to say, ten voters for one, then ten for another, and so on. Who was to have the privilege of bringing up the first ten? Lots again; and again,

or the third time, Mr. Cobbett  
wins. What, thrice! If this is  
not an omen, what is?—

*Thrice the brindled cat hath mewed.*

Can there be better luck than this?  
A fourth candidate has just been  
added. A vague handbill first in-  
imated such an event; but it was  
only at twelve o'clock that a tardy  
conclave finally determined to  
start Captain Barrie. He is a  
distinguished Navy officer, and  
allied to one of the partners in  
the banking-house here.

Mr. Wood is to go out of town  
this evening in order to come into  
the city in procession. In the meantime  
the activity of Mr. Cobbett's friends  
exceeds all expectations. Ad-  
dresses are coming in every day  
directed to the people of Preston.

Neither Mr. Stanley nor Mr.  
Wood made their appearance  
these two days.

In the evening Mr. COBBETT  
addressed the people to this  
effect:—

Gentlemen, Members of Par-  
liament are worth nothing unless  
they do something to serve their  
constituents. I had the honour of  
telling you last night, that if you  
did me the favour of coming to  
hear me this evening, I would en-  
deavour to explain to you how  
the scantiness of the weaver's din-  
ner is to be ascribed to a want of

the performance of their duties by  
Members of Parliament—to be  
ascribed to a want of Reform in  
that Parliament, which has laid on  
all the taxes—has inflicted on us  
all the calamities we have been  
enduring for fifty years past. Gen-  
tlemen, we are apt to believe, as  
I have twice or thrice before ob-  
served, that England was always  
in the same miserable state it is at  
present, and I showed also twice  
or thrice the utter falsity of this  
notion, which our rulers would,  
nevertheless, have us entertain.

A gentleman of the name of Pres-  
ton, the same name as that of this  
town, a lawyer of eminence, wrote  
a pamphlet about seven years  
ago, in which he demonstrated that  
every labouring man who earned  
and expended eighteen pounds a  
year, paid eleven pounds out of  
the eighteen in taxes. Gentle-  
men, this exceeds my calculation  
the other night, for I only sup-  
posed that the man who earned on  
the average thirty pounds a year,  
paid twenty pounds in taxes.  
This is something short of the  
computation of Mr. Preston,  
and short probably of the truth.  
I observed on the occasion I al-  
luded to, that if a weaver, during  
thirty years, had saved the twenty  
pounds a year, instead of paying  
it in taxes, he would at the end of

that time, be in possession of the sum of 600*l.*; or, at any rate, if he had expended the money, he would have lived better: and this it is—it is this good living that I would wish to see restored, and to restore which would be the object of my exertions in Parliament. Gentlemen, a very large portion of the taxes of this twenty pounds a year, paid by the weaver, is raised on account of the National Debt, and there are people who want us to believe that there has been always such a thing as a National Debt. That notion, Gentlemen, is exceedingly false. A National Debt has not been known to England only about one hundred and thirty-five years. Before that England knew no such degrading curse as a National Debt: she has no occasion to know it now; but it does exist, and that to a tremendous degree. Gentlemen, I shall explain to you how it presses upon you. I shall then show you how it came. I shall show you that it came in consequence of a want of a just representation of the people in Parliament. The debt, Gentlemen, amounts to eight hundred millions of money; that is to say, eight hundred millions of pounds sterling, or eight hundred millions of golden sovereigns. Let me re-

mark that this debt, this horrible and incredible parcel of money has been lent us; the fundholder, the money-broker, the stock-jobber, and Jews, and all the vermin of this description who prey on the vitals of the people, tell us that they lent us this money; lent us what? Eight hundred millions! Why, this is ten times as much gold as ever was in the world, as is in the world put together. Take your pen and calculate how many sovereigns that would make, what would be the weight of them—the avoirdupoise weight, which is the great weight, the butter weight, &c. We shall find that this sum if turned into gold, would make six thousand tons of gold, each ton being twenty long hundreds, each hundred being 112*lbs.* avoirdupoise weight.—(Cheers and laughter.) It would take four thousand wagons, with four stout horses to each, to drag it along the turnpike road. Is it possible? What! the Jews to lend *us* ten times as much money as ever was in the world! Where did they get it? Oh, no, Gentlemen, it has not been money; it was done in this way. It has been a loan; it consists not of money—no, no; but of bits of paper with certain signatures on that paper, which a set of jobbers received, which they

sell out to other jobbers, and they again to others, until the paper became funded (as they call it,) when an interest began to be paid on it, which interest we now pay, and if we go on at our present rate, we will be obliged to pay for ever; and we are to be beggars and slaves all our lives that this interest may be paid. Suppose the debt is due, who owes it? Did we, the people, contract it? Did we borrow it? Now, Gentlemen, attend to the truth. There was, better than 100 years ago, a "glorious revolution" in this country. That glorious revolution was to secure to us, amongst others, two great blessings. The first great blessing was a Parliament, to be freely chosen by the people; to sit for three years. The next great blessing was, that from and after that time no placeman, or pensioner, should sit in the House of Commons. Why, Gentlemen, the House of Commons is at this moment full of placemen and pensioners. In the year 1808, which is the last time for which a return was made, there were seventy-eight, I think it is, placemen and pensioners there, who received on the average about 2570*l.* a year a piece. So that you see the glorious Revolution did not secure us this great object, at all events.

That other object, a Parliament sitting only for three years, it secured to us for twenty years only. At the end of that time, the Parliament which had been chosen to sit for three years—which had a right, according to Act of Parliament to sit for only that time, that Parliament passed an Act by which they were to sit for seven years—and for seven years it has continued to sit ever since to this day, when the Ministers chose to let it, and not for seven weeks, if the Ministers chose that it should not sit for seven weeks. Therefore, Gentlemen, these two great blessings have not been secured to us by this glorious Revolution. But the Revolution has secured to us another thing—that is, a national debt, that great curse which robs the weaver of his dinner and other comforts.—Gentlemen, this Parliament, which was now to sit for seven years, made wars. The placemen and pensioners in it, acting contrary to the principles of the Revolution, in the first place continued to act for their own interest. They made wars because wars were profitable to themselves—but fearing that the people would not be so ready to hand them the money, they borrowed money for the purpose of carrying on the wars. Then they funded

those loans, and saddled your fathers and my father, you and me—your children and my children, to the infant in the cradle, with the payment of the interest of these loans. There, Gentlemen, is the true history of this great curse which constitutes three-fourths of the expenses of the nation; for these expenses, this debt, of which I say we, the people, do not owe one farthing, amount to thirty-six millions out of the fifty-six or fifty-eight millions. Therefore, Gentlemen, three-fourths of his dinner are taken away from the poor weaver by reason of the existence of this debt—a debt which, I say, was contracted to serve the interest of placemen and pensionmen, and the profits of which belong only to Jews and jobbers. But, Gentlemen, we have an army besides. As I told you the other night, Judge Blackstone declares that our happy laws know no such thing as an internal fortress, or barracks, or a standing soldier. But, Gentlemen, we do find, however, that these things are known to our happy laws. But why do they exist? Because, in one word, it would be impossible for the Government to collect fifty-seven millions from the people, without something more than a tax-gatherer calling for it with an ink

bottle at his breast.—(Laughter and cheers.) There must be somebody else. Now mark this—I have got some barley, and I want to make a little malt of it. The tax-gatherer says, “no, you shan’t.” “What! not turn a little barley that I have grown on my own field into a little malt to brew myself a drop of ale?” “No, you shan’t;” “Yes, but I shall;” “then I’ll go and fetch the constable;” who is to seize my goods under the process of the Court of Exchequer, or make me pay the fine or penalty incurred for having transgressed the law. “Well, I say, I shall gather all my fellows, and with clubs and sticks we will drive you off.” “Oh, will you,” says he, “then I’ll go and fetch the troops out of the next barracks to you.”—(Much laughing and cheers.) Gentlemen, I really do not think that these Ministers employ an army for the purpose of making us slaves, or because they hate liberty, or wish to see a military Government established over us; but, Gentlemen, they cannot collect a revenue of fifty-seven millions a year without a standing Army in time of peace. The Army, then, come and have a peck at the weaver’s dinner; and pretty delicately these military Gentle-

men do eat at times, and God do them good with it! They cannot, Gentlemen, do without their good dinners, although the starving weaver amongst us is often obliged to do so. This Army must be maintained then, because the taxes must be collected. Thus one thing brings on the other—the taxes must be had, and there must be an army to see that these taxes are collected. Now, Gentlemen, this Army costs eight millions a-year, making with the debt forty-seven millions. Here is the source of all the evils, all the suffering. Was ever any thing so preposterous as Government to pretend to encourage manufactures, and at the same time to put a tax on cottons—to make the three and a half square yards, that does not cost a penny a yard—to make it pay threepence in tax? Is that the way to encourage industry, to make every woman's gown pay a tax?—No, it is not, and the Government knows it is not; but they must have money some way or another; and as they don't make the landlord and fundholder pay, they tax the poor women's and girls' gowns! Hence your manufactures must go abroad, and your trade decline. It is in vain to hope that trade will revive until the taxes are got rid of. The

country is like the ass of Isachar, struggling between two burdens, first falling one way and then another way. Now, Gentlemen, I am come to the duty which you have to perform. Are these taxes to be diminished? Will these taxes be reduced, unless there is some one to propose the necessary measures? If you think I am a man that is likely to propose such measures as will be the means of restoring to the country the necessary ease and happiness, then it is not necessary for me to appeal to you to put me into Parliament. Let me only observe upon the unfeeling conduct of the managers of our affairs. Is there one Minister of them that has not a thumping sinecure, besides a salary? Mr. Canning has 6000*l.* a-year salary, as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs! He has had a sinecure since his boyish days. I knew him twenty-eight years ago—he has had a sinecure ever since! Gentlemen, there was a certain William Gifford, who was first made an Editor of a loyal newspaper for half an year, or a year, I believe. After that he was made a sinecure placeman, with a sinecure of between 300*l.* and 500*l.* a-year! We are saddled with the payment of that. Is there any reason for this? It

could not be for services. What think that some good would be was the reason then? Hear it, Aristocracy—hear it, pretended high blood—hear it, you who talk about lower orders, and blush for shame—this William Gifford had been travelling tutor to my Lord Belgrave (who is now Earl Grosvenor,) and my Lord Belgrave or his father gave him this sinecure to compensate him for having been his travelling tutor! Now, whether or not the Government gave this place to Gifford or not, I only know that he has been receiving it out of mine and your earnings, that the sinecure was granted in the year 1799, near twenty-seven years ago, and that about half that number of thousands have we paid already; and this is the way in which our money is disposed of. Let them now boast of high blood. Do we—do the lower orders act in such a way as this? If one of you make a pair of shoes for a neighbour, do you go to him and request that he will keep one of your sons for his life, because you have made him a pair of shoes?—(A laugh.) No; the lower orders would not do that; they are not actuated by a spirit so base and so unjust. There is a list of these pensioners four times as long as my arm, long as that is, which I could read to you. Do you not

think that some good would be done by having those things exposed—by having them spoken about in Parliament—by having them put in print, and circulated in every newspaper, as they would be sure to be, and read by the people with avidity during the long evenings next winter? Now if you never knew these things before, there is not one in ten thousand of you ever dreamt of such things—ever dreamt of the existence of this—William Gifford, for instance, or his sinecure. Yet, Gentlemen, it is true they do exist. Gentlemen, I conjure you to reflect on these things—to talk over amongst one another the causes of all this misery—to remember that all this ruin—this destruction of the farmer, the merchant, and the manufacturer—this degrading of class after class—is taking place for the sake of all these enormous devourers of the taxes, with a band of loan-makers, Jews, and jobbers. Gentlemen, in taking my leave of you, I must ask you to excuse my absence to-morrow night—to-morrow will be a busy day—the election begins on Friday. Every night I will address you here, beginning on Friday. I thank you for your attendance here—I thank you, above all, for the attention

with which you have heard me—  
 or this assemblage has been distin-  
 guished, not by any silly, senseless  
 clamour, but by silent attention—  
 by sensible listening. Let me  
 hope, Gentlemen, that you have  
 not been here in vain—that you  
 have gathered something that will  
 be useful—something by which  
 you will be able better to conduct  
 our affairs. Gentlemen, God  
 bless you, and good night.

The multitude, having given  
 three cheers, dispersed in the  
 most orderly manner.

*From the Morning Herald, June 12.]*

*Preston, June 7.*

It is not a storm, but a perfect  
 hurricane we are in at this mo-  
 ment. Things would have gone  
 off quietly enough, but for the un-  
 expected starting of Capt. Barrie.  
 The Catholics were all to vote, by  
 the consent of the three candidates,  
 and, just as they were enjoying  
 with anticipation the happy privi-  
 lege, in comes the candidate, and  
 smacks them all in the head with  
 the Oath of Supremacy; thus  
 more justifying a renewal of  
 the old and peculiar complaint of  
 this people.

But just when the chain  
 Had ceased to pain,  
 And Hope had enwreathed it round with  
 flowers,  
 There comes a new link  
 Our spirits to sink—

A great deal of exasperation  
 and unpleasant feeling have been  
 the consequence, and they dis-  
 played themselves in no equivocal  
 way before the hustings, and  
 throughout the town.

At ten o'clock the Mayor, with  
 his officers, and the four different  
 candidates appeared on the hus-  
 tings. Some were violently ap-  
 plauded. Capt. Barrie, who was  
 accompanied by Capt. Colquitt  
 and Lieut. Chippendale, his  
 friends, were met by every de-  
 monstration of dislike and hatred.  
 After the usual formalities were  
 gone through—

The Mayor expressed a hope  
 that the proceedings would be con-  
 ducted in an orderly and peace-  
 able manner. He assured them,  
 that on the part of the Returning  
 Officers, no partiality would be  
 shown.—(Applause.)

Mr. EAMER then came forward  
 to propose Mr. Cobbett. He con-  
 sidered it one of the proudest days  
 of his life, to have the privilege of  
 proposing to his brother electors a  
 man of such renowned talent as  
 Mr. Cobbett. The fate of mil-  
 lions depended on their votes. He  
 then proposed Mr. Cobbett as a  
 fit and proper person to be chosen  
 their Representative in Parlia-  
 ment.—(Cheers.)

Mr. IRVING seconded the nomi-

2 A



nation. He was glad to be allowed the opportunity of supporting a man of unprecedented talent, a friend to the labouring class, an enemy of taxes. He called on the electors to support the man that would support them. In supporting him they would confer upon themselves immortal fame—in rejecting him the electors would sink into infamy in the eyes of Europe. Begging of them to be firm and true, he would conclude by a Scriptural quotation: "Now is the appointed time; now is the day of salvation."—(Applause.)

Mr. WALKER then came forward and proposed John Wood, Esq. as an independent, able man, and every way fit and proper to be chosen their Representative.

Mr. WOODCOCK.—To our Returning Officers great praise is due.—(A voice, "don't cant.") I will not cant, but I will not be put down.—He then seconded the nomination of Mr. Wood.

Mr. CROSS said, that the gentleman whom he was about to propose for their choice, Mr. Stanley, was held up to them as a youth of great promise, which he had fulfilled as far as he had yet gone.

Mr. ASPDEN seconded the proposition in a neat speech, in praise of the claims of Mr. Stanley.

Dr. ST. CLARE now came forward to propose Captain Barrie, but the uproar which prevailed rendered his speech inaudible for the most part. He said that Captain Barrie was long known to the electors of Preston in his private capacity, as well as by his public conduct.

Mr. GORST seconded the proposition.

Mr. COBBETT then came forward to the front of the hustings, and was received with waving of hats and deafening applause. As soon as silence was restored, he spoke to the following effect:—Mr. Mayor, and Gentlemen Electors of the Borough of Preston, it is wholly unnecessary for me to say any thing about your duties on this occasion, therefore I shall confine myself to what I deem it necessary to state, in order that I may show myself in some degree worthy of the choice of a people so estimable in every point as to be an example to the rest of the nation—and an example, I trust, you will be, by your conduct at this election, to many thousands of your countrymen. The Gentleman who has proposed, and the Gentleman who has seconded, the nomination of Mr. Stanley, have spoken, and with great propriety for aught I

know, of the high birth and rank of that candidate. I do not want to disparage birth and rank; but I cannot boast,—and perhaps I should lament—however, the fact is so—I can present neither to you in my person. I was born among the labouring classes of England—and to protect those classes I have always felt to be my duty since it has pleased God to develope some little talent in me. I shall add, Gentlemen, what I have already said to the people of Bolton, that when I abandon those labouring classes may God abandon me.—(Great applause.)

In choosing the person who is to undertake the important duty of representing you in Parliament, the great thing to be looked after, as far as the claims of a candidate are concerned, is the experience and the knowledge he possesses—the experience and knowledge which past events and undeniable facts prove him to possess. I pretend to no extraordinary endowment from nature—I pretend to be gifted with no particular talent—but I do pretend to upwards of thirty years of experience in public affairs—I pretend to having shown a great degree of knowledge, if not greater, than most other persons

—I pretend to a great deal of foresight in those affairs, and I add, that I have always shown as much public spirit, as much disinterestedness, as any other man; and I here state, in the face of you all, that I might have come from London to Preston in a chariot of solid gold if my pen could have been bought by that Government which has brought you to that misery you are now enduring. — (Great applause.) Gentlemen, it would be presumption in me to attempt to advise you how to act, but I will take the liberty of asking you to do me a favour—you will, then, please to refrain, as far as your feelings will allow you, from those expressions of approbation with which you may be disposed to receive me, as you will thereby shorten the time, and enable gentlemen who are to address you to do so, for I have a great deal to say to you. And here let me say, that I have been more honoured by that silent attention—by those looks of yours, which have proved to me that you had heard, and understood what you had heard—I say, I have been more satisfied with that sort of attention, than by all the other demonstrations of kindness you have shown me.

Gentlemen, in general it is a good rule, and it has passed through too many ages to be a bad one, that self-praise is no commendation; and I agree with those who are of opinion that no man has a right to occupy the time of others by dilating on his own deeds. But, Gentlemen, if a plaintiff brings an action against a man in certain cases, the man can plead his good character in his defence, and unless he does so, the Court will not hear him. When a servant goes to be hired, he details the qualities he possesses—he says what he can do—the sort of work—whether he can read or write—whether he can look after horses—mind a garden, and what not. Why should not Members of Parliament likewise come and tell those whom they wish to be their constituents, what it is they can do? I do not mean that they should enter into a history of their own qualities, but they could illustrate their assertion as to their own capabilities, by telling what it is they have done. It may be said that candidates will offer themselves who cannot boast of ever having done anything. Now that is a very good reason for excluding such persons. You should receive the advances of such persons with great slowness.

Gentlemen, I now proceed to state to you what I think, and what you will think also, entitles me to some degree of confidence. My efforts have been spread over a period of twenty-five years of duration in England, including a little period when I was absent, on account of Sidmouth's and Castlereagh's dungeons. During that time there has been no public matter which I have ever heard of, that was left undiscussed, or at least was untouched by me. This I need not dwell on, for a great part of you have read all about it; but it will remind you—it will remind our blundering statesmen themselves—and they are proofs of my experience, and the title I have to your confidence. For, Gentlemen, you want a man to assist in making laws that relate to your affairs, abroad as well as at home—and my efforts have been directed to foreign matters, as well as to those of a domestic nature. Allow me, Gentlemen, to say a few words upon some of those foreign matters. In the year 1811, a war was brewing by our corrupt Government, against the United States of America. At that time I addressed a series of letters to His Majesty, then Prince Regent, and I said, if your Royal Highness will permit those

Ministers to plunge the country in a war with America, these three things will happen—first, you will reduce England to a condition in which she never was before—in which all her former glory will be forgotten. You will bring disgrace on her Naval force. You will create a navy in America that will beat you upon the sea—that will pursue you upon the lakes. You will add to the enormous debt, and to the already unbearable taxes—you will, I said, create a fleet in America, that, surviving the war, will ultimately become superior to that of England. My advice was rejected with scorn. The Ministers, flushed with what they called victory over the Emperor Napoleon, went on in their career. What was the consequence? England was beaten and disgraced by land, as well as by sea; beaten even after the signing of the treaty. Her enormous debt was increased.—Commissioners from America had sued in vain for peace. The Ministers presented a *sine qua non*; that is to say, a condition from which they would not recede, but they were obliged to give way. She signed a most disgraceful treaty, and yielded to a disgraceful cession of territory. Gentlemen, observe, before the Ame-

rican war, that saucy Gentleman, Mr. Canning, said in the House of Commons, what have we to fear from half a dozen fir frigates, with bits of striped bunting at the mast heads?—(A laugh.) Well, Gentlemen, these half dozen fir frigates swelled into a navy of seventeen ships of the line, larger than British vessels of the same denomination, and fifty-seven frigates, each equal to a sixty gun British ship. Gentlemen, I have no pleasure in stating these things, I make the statements with great pain. I would so manage affairs as to stop the increase of that navy, or I would try my strength with her before she should become stronger. Gentlemen, I have no pleasure in making this statement. I love England too well. I love her fame and her power as I love her happiness and her peace. I could be any thing I wished in America. They would do any thing for me there. I was invited to come and see the President of Congress. I was invited to see the Governor of the State of New York. I would do neither. I was requested to stay behind.—Anything would be done for me, through my friends in Long Island, if I would only become a citizen of the United States, but I never would; no, I said, England, badly

off as she is—villanous, tyrannical, and execrable as is her Government, it is my duty to return and assist her in shaking off the trammels which press upon her.—(Cheers.) I did come back, and I arrived here with a prospect of having no dinner to eat, until I earned it; stripped of every thing, as I was, by the hands of this merciless Government. When I did come, a man, in Bolton, for announcing my return to this beloved land in good health, was thrown into prison by the order of Magistrates. Was ever tyranny equal to that? But the reception I have met with in Lancashire has healed all my wounds, if wounded I was; has reconciled me to my country; and if ever I wanted the disposition to devote myself, even to destruction for its sake, your conduct would inspire me with that disposition. So much, Gentlemen, for the American war. By and by, South America sprung up. Still thinking of England, though abroad, I sent a petition, in the year 1817, over to this country; the object of it was to prevail upon this Government to acknowledge the States of South America, as the means of binding them, of making them almost colonies of England; things which they might have

done, for the troops were then in France, and the Members of the Holy Alliance were engaged in the affairs of the Continent. But the Ministers rejected and scorned this advice. However, when too late, after the troops had been withdrawn from France, and after the Bourbons had become strong upon the throne, and the United States of America had seen that it was time to come forward, then our conjurors send out a parcel of little gentlemen to acknowledge the independence of South America. So that we have, as it is said, gained a loss at last. If the Government had acknowledged that independence sooner, do you imagine that the manufactures of Great Britain, particularly those of this county of Lancaster, would be now selling in those states for less than half what was paid for them in Liverpool?

The third instance, Gentlemen, to which I will bring your attention is, that of the war between France and Spain. You will recollect when that army was stationed in the South of France to enter Spain, you saw in our newspapers—those statesmen who conduct the broad sheets called newspapers declared—that this army never would dare to march into Spain—that the Duke of Wel-

lington was gone over to France to tell the King that he must not let his army go into Spain, and therefore they would not do so. This was in September. Mr. Huskisson at Liverpool, Mr. Can-ning at Harwich, and all the Ministers in the Parliament on the following February, said so. The French did, however, enter Spain—they took the fortress of Cadiz, as I said they would; and all those who, relying on these declarations of the Ministers, had vested their money in Spanish Bonds, which when they were at 75 I said they were worth nothing, and which are now selling for 4 or 5; that is to say, they are not worth one farthing: all these, I say, would not, if they had taken my advice, have been reduced to the state of beggary they are in.—These, Gentlemen, are so many proofs that I have that sort of knowledge which is worthy, not indeed of directing your choice, for a great deal would be necessary to do that, but which gives me a fair title to be a candidate. These are things which will enable you to judge, whether the Gentlemen who claim your support, are more likely to serve you with advantage than I am, and whether or not laws that will be productive of benefit to the country are

more likely to emanate from them than from me.

Gentlemen—Having occupied your time so long upon these foreign matters, I have the less time to speak to you as to the domestic part; and first of all, with respect to the Corn Bill—that dreadful scourge of the country, and which, in its consequences to all classes, has proved to be little short of a pestilence—that Bill has been opposed by me from the very outset. All my efforts have been directed against it. The only county that petitioned against this Bill was the county of Wilts. We held a meeting at Salisbury—I drew up the petition, and moved it; Mr. Hunt seconded it, and it was unanimously passed; but this was the only county that petitioned against that accursed measure. From that day to this I have opposed it, and, Gentlemen, I now congratulate you upon the prospect we have of its being abolished, for stand it cannot.

But, Gentlemen, the grand affair of all is, that not less accursed affair of the paper money—a system which, in its consequences upon society, has produced more of misery, more of human suffering, than all the wars—than pestilence—than any

think that has been the effect of a convulsion of nature—more calamitous than all these causes put together.

Gentlemen—I need not tell you, you who are as well acquainted with it as I am myself, that in the year 1811, and again in 1819, then in 1822, and from that time to this very hour, I have been warning the Ministers against the terrible consequences of their measures. This paper system, with a system of monopoly, Corn Bill, and other things, have produced all the suffering that has fallen on the industrious and ingenious people of the country—sufferings of which, if I had been listened to, not one particle would have existed.

Gentlemen, I have not much more to say; but there are one or two things which I wish to add.—(A voice,—“ Pray, say something about the Captain.”) So much, Gentlemen, for the past; it is but fair now that I should say something about what I intend to do, not using any general and vague expressions—not talking about Constitution in Church and State.—(Laughter and applause, and cries of, “ that is the Captain.”) Why, Gentlemen, need I tell you that I don't want to destroy the King, or to

overset the form of the Government. You don't want me to disavow that—you can't think me so disposed, you must be sure that I am not able to do it. Gentlemen, upon all these occasions we are to presume that the laws are to continue, the Constitution to continue, and the form of Government to remain pretty much about what it is at present. But there are certain measures to be proposed—and here I come to tell you of something specific that I shall do. The great and general object I should have in view, would be to reduce the mass of taxes, and make that mass very small. The taxes were sixteen millions before the French war, they are now fifty-seven millions, of which there are paid for the mere collecting to the tax-gatherers, and to the fellows who go about with ink-bottles in their button-holes—to one creature or another of these, there are paid five millions a year; a sum equal to the revenue of the country in the reign of Queen Anne, and she carried on glorious wars, leaving the country at the end of those wars in a state of prosperity. Gentlemen, there is no necessity for such an amount of taxes; they need not exceed five millions, as I could demon-

strate; to that they ought to be reduced. The great bar, however, to this reduction is the national debt, which was contracted for carrying on the wars. Gentlemen, a petition which I had the honour of proposing, and which was agreed to by that public-spirited county—Norfolk, another from Surrey, others from Kent and Herefordshire. I think Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire expressed a desire to have that debt reduced. They call it robbery, but have they not indirectly reduced it themselves by putting out small notes. Besides, I could show you at any time that the people who are said to have lent this money—the Jews and jobbers, never lent it, or any great proportion of it in reality, and that there could not be any thing like the amount of the money at a given time to enable them to lend it; and lastly, that we are paying three times as much as they ought to receive. I do not speak here for the working classes alone. For, I ask, has not the land-proprietor, the merchant, the manufacturer, the farmer, the literary man even, a right to complain of being obliged to pay three times as much as he ought to the fundholder? Would it not evidently be better for a master manufacturer who is clear-

ing between three and four thousand a-year, and who has perhaps a large family—would it not be better for him to have for himself the fifteen hundred a-year, perhaps, which he pays more than he has a right to pay? And would it not be better for you to have upon your table, instead of a piece of bacon as thin as a wafer, a good lump of bacon?—(Laughter and cheers). Gentlemen, that is the short case as to the funds. Something must be done—matters cannot remain as they are—either the country will be plunged into a general convulsion, or this terrible taxing system must be reduced, in order that the people may live as well as they formerly did.

There is another thing connected with this debt which should be stated—that is, as long as the taxes exist—as long as this millstone hangs around the neck of England, so long must she remain at peace. You heard Mr. Canning say that the French would not take Cadiz. They did however. He then hectoring and said that they must evacuate that fortress immediately. Well, Gentlemen, the French are in Cadiz at this moment; and, last year, when Mr. Canning was asked when they would leave it, he said



he could not tell. I will tell you what my real opinion is—if a French frigate were to sail to the Isle of Wight, land a number of armed men, and carry off cattle and provisions, my real opinion is that our Ministers dare not resent the affront. We have received insults from the United States of America. How easily did those States obtain East Florida, a most important part of the American territory, which guards their back country, and opens to the province and city of Mexico, and the loss of which, as I could make clear as day-light, must tend eventually so much to our ruin and degradation. Not one word has escaped our Ministers relative to the cession of that important province. Again, the United States have given hints as to the strong desire they have to get Cuba out of the hands of Spain. Not one word have we said relative to that subject. We are bound hand and foot. Every country knows this. The United States know it, and presume upon it. Would Russia, unless she knew our situation, be playing the pranks she is? England, under the present system, must be sunk to a nothing of a country—she must be broken up—her people scattered every where about like roaming savages, unless this abominable system is stopped. The people may suffer a great deal, they may give up their earnings. But a great deal of muskets, bullets, and bayonets, will be required to make them do more. I do not say that we have these things now, for I will not speak even of these Ministers worse than they deserve; but I am persuaded that the people of this

country will never lie down and starve. When the country can no longer endure the torture, she will arouse herself and shake off the shackles that oppress her. She never can be any thing else but, as Burke well observed, “an extinguished country or a great one.”—(Applause). She is nothing now—Ministers are so hampered—so plagued, insulted by foreign countries, and threatened by the growing and alarming power of the United States. Gentlemen, suppose I were a Minister—and I must ask to be forgiven for supposing such a thing to be possible; but if I were a Minister, I would not sleep three nights consecutively, until I had sent off word to the Bourbons of France to bring away their troops from Spain, and sent word to the United States of America to cease building ships of war. England has resources—the Ministers keep telling us that she has—nevertheless she is little, that might be so great. Yes, she has resources, they are unimpaired; but they are perverted, and all the good things are given to those who ought not to have them. Gentlemen, this consideration is a source of great consolation to me, loving England as I do. I never knew the moment in which I did not love England; even, when on board the ship that was conveying me from her shores, committed as I was to the waves, and lightning striking the vessel; yet, feeling myself safer there than I would be in a land where Castlereagh and Sidmouth had their dungeons—even then I loved England as much as ever. I am still the same, and I trust that all who bear my name will always entertain the

same sentiments.—(Great applause.) Gentlemen, so much I felt it necessary to say, out of respect to you, on this occasion. I have but one word more to say. I have heard, and not without great surprise, that some master manufacturers have positively ordered their men not to vote for me—(Cries of “it is true.”) I hope sincerely that it is not true—(Cries again, “it is true.”) Although if it be true, I am not without the desire to furnish an excuse for such conduct, for they have heard nothing but calumnies of me; they have had nothing but a false picture of me presented to them every day in the week—aye, every hour in the day. The little collision of sentiment which has taken place has produced only irritation. They have contracted a habit of hating me, and hate me they do, without reason. I hope they have not been my enemies on this occasion—if they have been so, they will not prevent me from being elected; but if they have, and I get complete proof of it, such proof as is admissible in a Court of Justice, I will triumph over them the rest of my life, by showing them that if they don't know how to forgive, that I do. I will triumph over them by acting, when I shall be returned to Parliament, as their faithful representative—by consulting their interests, by receiving their statements and suggestions respectfully and attentively, by being their advocates before Government, their advocates before the Parliament, as far as that advocacy is consistent with the general interests of the country. Gentlemen, this is the only revenge that I shall seek—the only spirit towards them that I shall

carry in my breast from the excellent town of Preston.

This speech was followed by continued applause.

[From the *Morning Herald*, June 15.]

Preston, June 11.

The military were called in last night. A mob assembled round the inn where Capt. Barrie's committee sit, and proceeded to throw stones. A detachment of the Guards were stationed at Kirkham, about eight miles off. Between that place and this telegraphic communications were placed, so as that the authorities here might at a moment have the military with them. The Guards came galloping into the town, and instantly the crowd dispersed. The windows of the inn were broken, and several of the frames were knocked in. No further disturbance was attempted.

The morning opened with a protest being handed in by Mr. Cobbett against the tally system, as he had only assented to it in case the Oath of Supremacy should not be tendered—against the mode of examination of voters, thereby causing a delay which must necessarily exclude two-thirds of the electors from voting. After a series of charges of partiality, he concluded in these words:

And I hereby give you notice, that any return you may make, as the result of your present system of proceeding, will be objected to and resisted by me, according to the manner and by all the means which the law has pointed out and provided.  
WM. COBBETT.

In consequence of this protest the Mayor ordered a cessation of the polling by tallies.

A scene of rude personality and disorder then ensued, which it is impossible to describe. Capt. Barrie and Mr. Wood charged Mr. Cobbett with having gone to an elector who, he knew, had promised to vote for Messrs. Stanley and Wood, and saying to that elector, after trying to get him to break his promise—"May starvation light upon you." This Mr. Cobbett denied, saying, it was as gross, as infamous a lie as ever came from the lips of a Canada Commissioner or a Liverpool sugar-baker. But everybody knew "Bob Barrie, the dog-fighter."—(Laughter.) This was not his expression, it was Mr. Mayor that said it, not he.

The polling commenced at a late hour, Mr. Cobbett having declared it to be his determination not to observe the tally system any longer, desired that the electors should be admitted to poll as they came. This measure was likewise adopted by the other candidates; so that the greatest possible confusion reigned on the hustings for some time, in consequence of the competition of the voters to have their votes received.

**TUESDAY.**—This morning Sir T. Beever did not come to the hustings, and Mr. Cobbett remained there only for a short time; but during that time, the hustings was a scene of indescribable tumult and personality.

First of all, Mr. Cobbett handed in the Protest, (No. V.) and whilst it was reading the Mayor several times denied the truth of its statements.

An altercation ensued between Mr. Cobbett and the Mayor, the latter declaring that it was not he

that called in the military. They were called in by the County Magistrates, on information on oath that danger was apprehended by the inhabitants of the town. He said further, that he would have no further agreement with Mr. Cobbett, he had so often broken his word already. He wanted also to deny having ever said of Capt. Barrie, "every body knows Bob Barrie, the dog-fighter."

Mr. Wm. COBBETT said that in a conversation he had with the Mayor, he certainly used this description.

The MAYOR, after a short explanation of something he admitted he had said, told Mr. Wm. Cobbett that he had *lied*—a compliment that was returned without hesitation by the other party.

A scene of the greatest disorder then took place—the voters from each side rushing to the poll, and striving to see which should obtain a preference. During this disorder, Mr. Wood pulled out a book, and said he would show that Mr. Cobbett was a friend once to Negro Slavery. But the noise and tumult which burst forth at the moment from the crowd, drowned every word he uttered. This book was the "Book of Wonders," purporting to contain extracts from Mr. Cobbett's writings. The noise continuing, Mr. Cobbett advanced to the front of the hustings, and said, "Now, Woody, I'll get you a hearing," and he endeavoured to calm the multitude. There were a few moments of repose, but the storm began again.

In the course of yesterday, Mr. Cobbett gave in two other Protests.

*State of the Poll, at the Close,  
on Tuesday, June 13.*

Stanley . . .	229
Wood . . .	132
Barrie . . .	125
Cobbett . . .	107

## MARKETS.

**Average Prices of CORN through-  
out ENGLAND, for the week end-  
ing June 3.**

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat . .	57	3	Rye . . . .	33	11
Barley . .	28	11	Beans . . .	38	2
Oats . . . .	23	4	Pease . . .	38	3

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

**Quantities and Prices of British  
Corn, &c. sold and delivered in  
this Market, during the week ended  
Saturday, June 3.**

Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat.. 4,392 for 13,073	16	7	Average, 59	6	
Barley.. 607 ..	878	4	7.....	28	11
Oats.. 10,603 ..	14,024	14	8.....	26	5
Rye.... 25 ..	38	11	10.....	30	10
Beans.. 538 ....	1,046	17	6.....	38	11
Pease .. 94 ....	173	1	2.....	37	2

Friday, June 9.—The arrivals of all sorts of English Grain this week are small, but there is a considerable quantity of Irish Oats. Wheat of prime quality fully supports Monday's terms, but other kinds are nearly unsaleable. Barley, Beans, and Pease fully support last quotations. Oats of fresh quality meet

buyers readily, but for other kinds there is little demand.

Monday, June 12.—The arrivals since this day se'nnight are moderate of all sorts of Grain, except Oats, of which the quantity is considerable, owing to many cargoes having come in from Ireland. This morning the show of samples, fresh up, of all descriptions of Grain is small. The weather being universally considered extremely favourable to the Wheat crop, which, round London, is now starting into ear, and the supply of Flour being good, the trade for Wheat is, in consequence, confined almost entirely to prime samples, which obtain the terms last quoted, but all other qualities are excessively heavy in sale.

There is no trade for Malting Barley, and the top price cannot be quoted above 30s. per quarter. Grinding qualities meet no alteration. Beans and Pease remain as last quoted, with few at Market.

The liberated Foreign Oats are selling at low prices, which make the trade for this article very heavy; and except for fine, sweet, stout parcels, they may be quoted rather lower than this day se'nnight. There is a fair demand for fresh Flour. Nothing doing in the liberated Foreign Wheat, except for such parcels as are perfectly sweet.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack . . . . .	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds . . . . .	42s. — 46s.
— North Country . . . . .	40s. — 43s.

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

Ware.....	£5	0	to	7	0
Middlings.....	3	0	—	3	10
Chats.....	0	0	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.				

## BOROUGH, per Ton.

Ware.....	£5	0	to	7	0
Middlings.....	3	0	—	4	0
Chats.....	0	0	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....	70s.	to	90s.
Straw...	34s.	to	39s.
Clover..	84s.	to	110s.
St. James's.—Hay....	60s.	to	100s.
Straw ..	30s.	to	44s.
Clover ..	95s.	to	110s.
Whitechapel.—Hay....	70s.	to	90s.
Straw...	34s.	to	42s.
Clover..	90s.	to	115s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

*The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.*

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.	s.	to s. d.
Aylesbury .....	52	59 0	32	36 0	26	30 0	40	42 0	46	0 0
Banbury .....	54	59 0	28	32 0	26	31 0	40	44 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke ....	50	65 0	26	30 0	22	27 0	45	50 0	0	0 0
Bridport.....	54	56 0	36	0 0	20	22 0	46	52 0	0	0 0
Chelmsford.....	56	66 0	28	30 0	26	30 0	36	40 0	36	40 0
Derby.....	58	64 0	28	34 0	26	30 0	42	46 0	0	0 0
Devizes.....	48	63 0	29	31 0	26	32 0	40	52 0	0	0 0
Dorchester.....	52	62 0	25	29 0	22	27 0	42	48 0	0	0 0
Exeter.....	60	64 0	34	38 0	23	28 0	28	32 0	0	0 0
Eye.....	54	63 0	32	36 0	24	30 0	36	40 0	36	40 0
Guildford.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley.....	58	72 0	30	0 0	24	30 0	44	48 0	42	48 0
Horncastle.....	50	54 0	24	26 0	20	23 0	38	40 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	53	65 0	22	30 0	20	30 0	40	54 0	0	0 0
Lewes.....	52	64 0	0	0 0	23	25 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury .....	44	68 0	27	30 0	24	32 0	44	49 0	0	0 0
Northampton....	52	58 0	30	32 0	23	25 0	38	42 0	38	39 0
Nottingham ....	57	0 0	29	0 0	25	0 0	43	0 0	0	0 0
Reading.....	56	73 0	27	33 0	19	27 0	44	50 0	43	50 0
Stamford.....	50	58 0	27	30 0	21	25 6	37	41 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket ....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Swausea.....	64	0 0	28	0 0	24	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro.....	64	0 0	35	0 0	23	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge.....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warminster.....	47	58 0	25	32 0	23	26 0	42	54 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	56	0 0	29	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith* .....	28	31 6	19	24 0	18	22 0	19	21 0	17	19 6
Haddington*.....	23	31 0	18	24 0	17	23 0	16	20 0	16	20 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

*Liverpool*, June 6.—The arrivals of Grain during the past week to this port were tolerably extensive in quantity, and sales to a fair amount were effected, chiefly of Foreign Wheat, now daily expected to be released from bond, at about the prices of last Tuesday. At this day's market there was a good attendance of buyers, when British and Irish Wheats were sold at an advance of 2d. per 70lbs. Oats to a small extent were sold at a decline of about 1d. per 45lbs. Other articles of the trade were also somewhat lower.

Imported into Liverpool from the 30th May to the 5th June, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 11,855; Barley, 684; Oats, 16,948; Malt, 1,981; Beans, 1,527; and Pease, 107 quarters. Flour, 2,466 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 3,193 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Guildford*, June 3.—Wheat, new, for seed, 13*l.* 10*s.* to 18*l.* 10*s.* per load. Barley, 30*s.* to 36*s.*; Oats, 26*s.* to 34*s.*; Beans, 43*s.* to 50*s.*; and Pease, grey, 46*s.* to 49*s.* per quarter. Tares, 8*s.* 3*d.* per bushel.

*Norwich*, June 2.—We had a liberal supply of good Wheat to-day, quite equal to the demand; prices of Red, from 48*s.* to 54*s.*; White to 58*s.*; Barley but little shown, prices from 22*s.* to 27*s.*; Oats, 21*s.* to 27*s.*; Beans, 36*s.* to 39*s.*; Peas, 37*s.* to 40*s.* per quarter; and Flour, 42*s.* to 43*s.* per sack.

*Bristol*, June 8.—Very little business doing here in the Corn Markets; the supplies continue moderate, but equal to the demand. Wheat, from 4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 3*d.*; Barley, 3*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*; Oats, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 4½*d.*; Beans, 3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*; and Malt, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 1½*d.* per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Seconds, 30*s.* to 45*s.* per bag.

*Wakefield*, June 9.—Wheat is again in short supply, and the best fresh samples are heavy sale at last week's prices; and middling and inferior sorts are very dull, and offering on rather lower terms. Oats are dull without material variation in prices, but Shelling is in good demand and full as dear. Beans are scarce and in fair demand at late prices.—Wheat, Red, 47*s.* to 61*s.*; White, 50*s.* to 61*s.* per 60lbs.; Barley, 26*s.* to 28*s.*; fine, 29*s.* per quarter; Beans, small, 40*s.* to 43*s.*; tick, 37*s.* to 40*s.* per 63lbs.; Oats, Mealings, new, 12¼*d.* to 13¼*d.* per stone; Shelling, new, 31*s.* to 33*s.*; and Malt, 32*s.* to 40*s.* per load. Flour, fine, 45*s.* to 47*s.* per sack of 280lbs. Rapeseed, 11*l.* to 19*l.* per last.

*Manchester*, June 10.—There has been very little doing in the trade in the course of the past week, and prices remain without any material alteration from this day se'nnight. There was a tolerable attendance, and fair show of samples, at this day's market, which ruled extremely dull. Wheat moves off slowly, at a reduction of 2d. per bushel. Oats are in moderate request, and 1d. per 45lb. dearer. Beans very scarce, and ready sale at 1*s.* per quarter advance. Flour is in good demand, at a decline of 1*s.* per sack. Other articles as last noted.—Wheat, English, 58*s.* 3*d.* to 68*s.* 7*d.*; Irish, 53*s.* 8*d.* to 65*s.* 1*d.*; Foreign, 48*s.* to 60*s.* 10*d.*; Barley, 26*s.* 8*d.* to 30*s.*; Oats, Irish, 23*s.* 1*d.* to 30*s.* 2*d.*; Pease, 44*s.* to 56*s.* per quarter, Winchester; Beans, English, 46*s.* to 49*s.*; Irish, 44*s.* to 46*s.* per quarter, 63lbs. per bushel; Malt, 34*s.* to 43*s.* per load of six imperial bushels; Flour, 37*s.* to 49*s.* per bag of 280lbs.; Oatmeal, English, 32*s.* to 34*s.*; Irish, 26*s.* to 33*s.* per load of 240lbs.; Bran, broad, 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per 20lbs.

*Wisbeach*, June 10.—The supply of Oats and Beans is short, of Wheat good.—Red Wheat, 50*s.* to 56*s.*; White ditto, 56*s.* to 58*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 25*s.*; and Beans, 38*s.* to 40*s.* per quarter.

## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Norwich Castle Meadow*, June 10.—We had only a small supply of fat Cattle to this day's market, prices from 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. The supply of Store Stock was very large, what few Scots were sold, were from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone when fat; we had also a good supply of Short Horns, many of them sold, prices from 3s. to 3s. 9d. per stone.

*Horncastle*, June 10.—Beef, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 7d. to 8d.; and Veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

*Manchester*, June 7.—At this day's market we had a good supply of Sheep and Cattle, (the latter chiefly Irish,) which were more than equal to the demand, still holders would not submit to any reduction in prices in the early part of the day, but at the close our quotations were barely supported.—Beef, 6d. to 7d.; Mutton, 5½d. to 6½d.; Lamb, 6d. to 7d.; Veal, 6d. to 7½d.; and Pork, 3½d. to 5d. per lb. sinking offal.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., there was a good supply of Cattle, Sheep, and Lambs, the former sold readily at last week's prices; the latter met with dull sale: prices rather lower.—Beef, from 5s. 9d. to 6s. 6d.; Mutton, 7s. to 8s.; and Lamb, 8s. 3d. to 9s. 3d. per stone, sinking offal.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended June-3, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*.....	60	6	29	3	25	10
Essex .....	60	10	28	11	25	10
Kent.....	59	10	29	4	26	1
Sussex.....	54	3	30	0	24	10
Suffolk .....	56	6	29	2	27	2
Cambridgeshire.....	55	3	29	8	22	8
Norfolk .....	53	10	24	8	25	0
Lincolnshire .....	55	7	27	6	21	4
Yorkshire .....	54	9	27	4	20	4
Durham .....	58	1	36	0	28	2
Northumberland .....	54	0	31	0	24	6
Cumberland .....	60	11	28	10	23	4
Westmoreland .....	64	4	36	10	23	9
Lancashire .....	60	8	0	0	24	9
Cheshire .....	61	5	0	0	24	3
Gloucestershire.....	58	7	33	5	26	4
Somersetshire .....	58	9	30	8	23	5
Monmouthshire.....	58	11	38	1	26	4
Devonshire.....	59	1	0	0	0	0
Cornwall.....	62	8	30	11	23	7
Dorsetshire .....	55	7	27	2	23	7
Hampshire .....	55	6	29	2	24	3
North Wales .....	61	7	34	8	21	5
South Wales .....	58	1	26	10	19	4

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

VOL. 58.—No. 13.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1826. [Price 6d.



## TO THE READERS OF THE REGISTER.

THE publishing of the Register has been delayed, in expectation of receiving copy from Preston. None has arrived; and it is supposed that Mr. Cobbett did not choose to write any thing about that which now wholly possesses his attention, until he might have leisure to give his readers a detail of all the illegal practices that have been resorted to, in order to prevent the good people of Preston from sending him to Parliament as their chosen Representative.

The *tone* of the Broad Sheet has changed considerably, since it has been so manifest that the one grand object, with *all parties*, was to prevent, by any means, no matter how unlawful or how vile, the success of Mr. Cobbett at Preston. Therefore, even the extracts that are now inserted in the Register are, by no means, to be looked upon as being authentic.

Mr. COBBETT's old friends at Coventry may be assured, that he has been, by no means, an uninterested observer of their late contest. For their attachment to him, and their remembrance of the treatment he experienced in their

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]



town, at the hands of the "Rich Ruffians" and those of their discarded Members, he entertains the warmest gratitude.

At the time when Mr. COBBETT had so fair a prospect of becoming one of the representatives for Coventry, all parties joined (as they have done now at Preston) to keep him out. Mr. ELLICE was supported *then* very differently to what he has been supported now. *Then* he was supported and assisted, in all sorts of ways, by every Whig, every hanger-on of the Whigs, and by all the pretended Reformers in the kingdom. Those who did not dare do it openly, worked for him in secret, and under-handedly. The case was very different at the late contest. Mr. COBBETT was to be tricked out of his election, at another place; and it being matter of little or no consequence whether Mr. ELLICE were returned or not, he was left to shift for himself.—If Mr. Ellice had joined Mr. COBBETT, instead of choosing that very worthy per-

sonage PETER MOORE for a colleague, he, Mr. ELLICE, might have been sure of his seat *now*; and that he knows well. He made his choice, and he has reaped the reward he merited.—During the election of 1820 it was asserted by several persons, who *witnessed the whole transaction*, that Mr. ELLICE, in the height of his zeal to keep Mr. COBBETT out of Parliament, sent a band of hired ruffians to attack him, as he was standing *alone* in the street. Mr. ELLICE may have recollected this circumstance, when he was being saluted, by his constituents, with paving stones; or should this trait of pure Whigism never have obtruded itself upon *his* recollection, perhaps he may call to mind his address to the "Rich Ruffians," at the close of the election, in which he congratulated himself and them, upon having "beaten SEDITION."

An implicit reliance on newspaper intelligence has never been on the catalogue of Mr. Cob-

Mr. Cobbett's fallings, therefore he does not quite believe the fact of Mr. ELLICE having told a Cobbettite, (during the heat of his late violent contest at Coventry,) that he "earnestly desired to see Mr. COBBETT in Parliament; and that should money be wanted to secure so desirable an object, his (Mr. ELLICE's) purse should be unstrung." — Mr. COBBETT needed not this, to confirm him in his opinion of Mr. ELLICE's sincerity.

The people of Coventry may not have gained much in their change of Members; but they, as well as Mr. COBBETT, derive some comfort in reflecting, that, at all events, they are no worse off than they were before.

London, June 23, 1826.

# PROTESTS TO THE MAYOR, &c.

## No. VI.

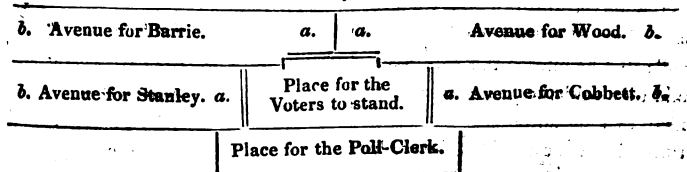
To Nicholas Grimshaw, Mayor, and to the other Returning Officers of the Borough of Preston, in the County of Lancaster.

The REMONSTRANCE and PROTEST of the undersigned Electors of the Borough of Preston,

Sheweth,

That the present mode of taking the poll, at the election now going on, is unlawful, partial, unjust, and manifestly tending to deprive us, or, at least many of us, of our right of voting.

That we cannot at our will get to the spot appointed for polling; that we are obstructed in our passage to the poll by bars, erected by your orders, and by constables stationed by you, or kept there by your refusal to cause them to be removed; that there are four distinct avenues, or entrances, to the polling place, one allotted for the voters for each candidate; thus:—



That at b. b. b. b. constables, or police - people are stationed with staves, to keep back all persons that are not introduced by the agents of the several candidates; that, at a. a. a. a. are four bars, where constables

stand to keep back the voters ; that the voters are admitted, through the bars, to the polling-box, one at a time ; that, the constables admit (or rather affect to admit) one voter of one of the candidates, and then one of another, and so on, until there has been one voter polled for each candidate.

. That thus, even supposing the admission through the bars to be impartial, all the evils and all the injustice of the tally system still remain ; that the polling is rendered so slow, that the whole of the electors can never be polled at this election ; that the Candidate who has a great number of voters can poll no faster than the Candidate who has a small number, even if the admission at the bars be impartial ; that, however, this admission is far from being impartial ; that it is, on the contrary, flagrantly partial and most audaciously unjust ; that the Mayor declared, on the 13th instant, at twenty-five minutes before eleven o'clock, that there should be separate doors of entrance for the voters of the several candidates ; that application was repeatedly made to the Mayor to permit the voters to come forward as they can, in order to poll ; that he refused this permission, and that while he has, in words, denied that he authorizes a voting by turns, he sees constables, before his face, drive voters back, and insist upon voting by turns.

That it is evident to us, that all these contrivances have, for their ob-

ject to prevent Mr. Cobbett, who, we are convinced, has a great majority of the votes, from being returned to Parliament ; and, therefore, we solemnly protest against these contrivances.

That we are now over-awed by a military force ; that there are two bodies of horse and one of foot stationed in the town ; that there is no riot in, nor any public dissatisfaction, other than that which arises from your proceedings in this election ; that the Mayor has, three several times, threatened the people with the calling in of a military force ; that that force is now here, and that this completes the set of contrivances for preventing the voice of the electors from prevailing.

We, therefore, demand, that the military be sent out of the town ; we protest against their presence here ; and we protest against all your above-stated contrivances and proceedings.

(Signed) *John Eamer.*  
*John Troin.*  
*Joseph Cussell.*  
*Richard Bradshaw.*  
*John Thompson.*  
*John Dickinson.*  
*J. A. Park.*  
*W. P. Staines.*  
*Joseph Parker.*  
*John Nasmith.*

Dated at Preston, this 15th day of June, 1826.

## No. VII.

*To Nicholas Grimshaw, Mayor,  
and to the other Returning  
Officers of the Borough of  
Preston.*

The PROTEST of me, WILLIAM  
COBBETT, one of the Candi-  
dates at this present Election,

Sheweth,

That you have, notwithstanding  
my former protests, persevered in  
your illegal mode of taking the poll;  
that you still persevere in that mode,  
even after my verbal protest of this  
morning; that, therefore, while I  
shall not, in any way whatever, either  
by bringing up men to poll, or by  
examinations into the validity of  
votes, or by any other means, give  
countenance to these your illegal  
proceedings, I hereby protest against  
them, and against any return that  
you may make as the result and  
effect of those proceedings.

WM. COBBETT.

*Dated at the Hustings, Preston,  
June 19, 1826.*

PROCEEDINGS AT  
PRESTON.

[From the Morning Herald, June 15.]

Preston, 15th June.

Mr. Cobbett looking towards  
Mr. Stanley, whose face was di-  
rected towards his side of the  
hustings, which he appeared to  
be surveying through his glass—  
“ See that fellow quizzing me—  
I’ll quiz him too; ” and he scoop-  
ed his hand and held it up to his  
eye, as if to look through it at  
Mr. Stanley.

Mr. COBBETT—There is Mr.  
Stanley for you—the handsome  
gentleman—the favourite of the  
ladies of Preston, forsooth. Do  
you know what? the only thing  
in the way of favour that I heard  
he received, was one of them  
spat on him. This is the favour  
that the nice Mr. Stanley gets  
from the ladies. It reminds me  
of the French epigram which I  
have seen in the translation. It  
runs thus—

“ I’d excuse you, my dear, for disguising your  
love,  
“ But why did you kick me down stairs? ”

—(Great laughter and cheering

from the crowd, mixed with hissings from the hustings.) In the same way this handsome favourite of the ladies may repeat—

“I’d excuse you, my dear, for disguising your love,

“But why did you spit in my face?”

(Great uproar.) He then proceeded to complain of the way in which the polling was conducted. What does Mr. Mayor hope to do? How could the voters come up? There were plenty of fortifications, God knows!—and Mr. Mayor wanted to make Members of Parliament out of scantlings and deal boards. This was his way of returning Members to Parliament.

In the evening Captain BARRIE addressed a large concourse of persons. A stern chase, said he, was a long one—but at last the best ship won. Let her be only tight rigged, well built and manned—let the enemy be made of green wood—and, a man o’ war to a jolly boat, the chaser would get a-head in a knot’s time. Who

talked of hauling in? who talked of taking in canvass?—not he. He quit the good ship Preston! *Shiver his timbers* if he’d not stick to her while a plank was afloat. He was too old a sailor, had been out in all weathers, “see’d too much sarvice,” to lower his flag to the saucy signal of such fresh-water mariners as he saw alongside of him.

*Friday Morning.*

All goes on quietly. The polling is proceeding more rapidly. Mr. Wood is still absent, but he is represented by Dr. Crompton and other friends.

Upon one occasion, when Mr. Wood charged Captain Barrie’s party with creating unnecessary delay, merely to gain time, for that the gallant Captain had not a shot in his locker—

Captain BARRIE—Let me tell you there are more shots in my locker than ever you’ll be able to stand to.

*State of the Poll on Friday  
Night:—*

Stanley . . . 730

Wood . . . 422

Barrie . . . 403

Cobbett . . . 321

As soon as the Mayor had announced the state of the Poll,

Mr. COBBETT stepped forward on the hustings, and said, "Gentlemen"—

The MAYOR — Adjourn the Court.

Mr. COBBETT—I say, Gentlemen—

The MAYOR — Adjourn the Court.

The Crier adjourned the Court.

Mr. COBBETT—The Captain has called upon you to abjure the Pope. I who am a Protestant, and who do not like the Pope quite so well as other people, perhaps think that it would be as well to abjure the devil. — (Great laughing and hisses from the hustings.) The devil I understand is going about this town in the shape of bribery; and I think,

mind I do not say positively that I will—but I think I'll put the oath for abjuring this devil of bribery to-morrow.—(Aye, aye—tell them may starvation seize them if they don't vote for you.—Great tumult.) Sam Horrocks, who is here before you, told you not long ago, that he would not become a candidate, because he did not wish that the promises which were made by the electors should be violated. That same Sam Horrocks is now calling on his father's men, as I understand, to break the promises given to Mr. Wood, and vote for Captain Barrie. This is what I hear. I may be misinformed.

Mr. HORROCKS—You are misinformed.

(Here the confusion became very great.)

Mr. HODGINS (one of Mr. Cobbett's Committee)—Do not strive to put us down by clamour. Is it true or is it not that Mr. Horrocks did what he is charged with? If it is, hiss away; if not, say so.

**Mr. BLACKHURST** (Capt. Barrie's agent)—**Mr. Horrocks** has said it is not true.

**Mr. COBBETT**—The Scripture says, that fire shall consume the dealers in bribery; it holds accused the perjurer and the false swearer. The man who induces another, by threats or any other means, to swear that which is against that other's conscience, is guilty of subornation of perjury. Show me the man that has done this. I do not know it of my own knowledge.—(Great tumult.)

**Mr. HODGINS**.—Well, then, let me name names; John Brown told me in the presence of **Mr. Cobbett**, that he was discharged by **Mr. Paley**, because he said he would vote for **Mr. Cobbett**.—(Cries from the hustings, "It's a lie, it's a lie;" great confusion, during which the Mayor with the officers retired.)

**Mr. COBBETT**—I say, show me the man that has done this; has compelled another to take the oath against his conscience; let me know who he is; let me have

proof of his crime; let me but know his name, and I will nail it up for ever to the gallows tree. It shall be known from Penzance to John o' Groat's. It shall stand accursed; it shall be a bye-word in the mouths of all men; it shall stink in their nostrils; better for him he had never been born.

Here **Mr. Cobbett** turned round, and found that all had left the hustings; but Captain Barrie and his party, who were all engaged in loudly hissing and hooting. He and his party then set up such a hooting, that the Captain and his friends were obliged to retire. As soon as the triumphant party saw the enemy retire, their hootings became still more loud and scornful.

**Mr. Cobbett** then went into his carriage and paraded the streets. **Sir T. Beever** was in the carriage. When he arrived at his inn, he again addressed the crowd.—"I told young **Horrocks** at the hustings just now, that he, notwithstanding what he said about not wishing to break promises, had

actually compelled his men to vote against me if he votes for vote for Barrie, although they Wood. Keep this in mind, and promised to vote for Wood ; and come to poll in time.

when I said this up to his teeth, Under the window of Mr. Stanley's Committee room, one of the men of his party got up on a ladder which was fixed against the wall, to address a good large crowd—" Gentlemen—(a laugh, a hem), I followed Maister Cobbett's colours for some time, but I was starved to death ; I was as dry as a chip, and not a sup could I get. I came to Maister Stanley's Committee, and they behaved like *gentlemen* to me ; *real gentlemen : they gave me clothes, meat, and drink, and even a bed to lie on, as I was not used to.*" Some of the more knowing ones of the same party, thinking that this sort of intelligence would do no good, very soon dethroned the orator.

The crowd very soon retired in good humour.

*Saturday Morning.*

The whole of the troops that were stationed here since Monday left the town this morning.



[From the Morning Herald, June 19.]

Preston, June 17.

The agents of Captain Barrie were thrown into the greatest alarm this morning, in consequence of the partial success of what they state to have been an unexampled trick—out of the tallies of this candidate, as they were brought up, several at the critical moment gave plumpers for Mr. Cobbett. Upon investigation it appeared, that there was good reason to believe that some of the more determined supporters of Mr. Cobbett had purposely contrived to get into the enemy's camp, and array themselves in his colours, in order, by giving their votes against him afterwards, to make the greater impression upon his forces. Whatever the cause may be, it is certain that several of the voters came up in Capt. Barrie's tally who plumped for Mr. Cobbett, and were received by his partisans, when they had done so amidst the greatest cheering.

Shortly before five o'clock, Mr. Cobbett came upon the hustings, and was saluted with acclamations from the area in front, and hisses from the booths. He took his station in front of the hustings, near a post, around which he clung as usual, and from that position he kept up a sort of dialogue with the persons who were immediately under him. Addressing himself to the voters who were still in Mr. Wood's tally box—"Depend upon it he can't come in—the best thing he can do is to give me his votes—Green can't come in, that's certain—every vote given to him is given for the Captain and against me."

Some of the men said that they would sooner do any thing than that the Captain should come in.

MR. COBBETT.—But it's certain though Green can't come in, that if I don't come in, the Captain will. But observe how we will ride over them on Monday morning, or, at farthest, on Wednesday. Keep steady, and we beat them in spite

of all their traps and contrivances, their scantlings, and deal boards.

—(Cheers and laughter from the area.) Oh, oh, don't laugh, it's a great crime to laugh in the presence of the Captain.—[Here Mr. Cobbett nodded to the crowd, and then peeped from behind the post significantly at Captain Barrie.—“ See,” said a voice, “ how he eyes him.”]—Mr. Cobbett: A cat may look at a king, you know, why may I not look at the Captain?—(Great laughter and applause.) Pray don't laugh; don't laugh at the Parliament, or they'll send you abroad for seven years; and if you laugh a second time, they'll send you abroad for your life.—(A laugh). See how we shall come upon 'em next week, in spite of their fortifications; there is a regular bastion (pointing to the barriers before the hustings through which the tallies were admitted)—look, here is a fosse, there an embrasure; never mind, we shall be at 'em on Monday.

The Mayor then announced the

state of the poll, up to its close that day, as follows:—

Stanley . . .	945
Wood . . .	538
Barrie . . .	536
Cobbett . . .	442

Mr. COBBETT—Four hundred and forty-two plumpers!

While the Crier was adjourning the Court,

Mr. COBBETT addressed the assemblage.

Gentlemen,—I told you last night that certain of the masters were discharging their men because they voted for me. I hold in my hand the affidavits of three men (mentioning their names) who worked for John Paley. Two of those were turned away because they said they would vote for me, and the other was turned away for having said that he would not vote for Captain Barrie. My opinion is, that the man who turns off his workman, or who threatens to turn him off because he will not take an oath contrary to his conscience, commits a crime in the eye

of the law.—(Great applause.) My opinion is, that if the matter of these affidavits be true, they will form the ground of an application to the Court of King's Bench; and if true, I promise you that I will cause that application to be made. I promise to have those injured and oppressed men redressed.—(Applause.) The men are here now present; here are the affidavits; I pledge myself that the application for legal redress shall be made, and if there be a law for punishing persons guilty of such offences, that punishment shall fall on the wicked master who could have committed such a foul act.—(Cheers.) Can there be in this world a more odious act of tyranny? Suppose that it is not, legally speaking, a crime; but look at the act itself. Consider the cruelty, the injustice, the barbarity of a master coming to a workman, and telling him, that unless he voted for the man whom perhaps he detested,—who, perhaps, he thought and was convinced would, by being in Parliament, do more harm than he would do good, unless he voted for such a man, this master telling him he would dismiss him, and reduce him and his wife and family to beggary.—(Cries of "Shame.") Never has there been in this world a more detestable act of tyranny. I defy any man to produce me an act by even the Dey of Algiers, of more consummate tyranny.—(Great cheering.) I say this to encourage you to resist the mandates of these oppressive masters. I, myself, would be ready to share the last sixpence I had in the world, with the man who was the victim of such oppression. Be ye but unanimous, however, and ye will force these tyrants to submit—submit they must—and if they do not, the loss finally will be their own. The poor man has a resource in his extremity—he has the land to go to—he can be relieved at his parish. When I go from this, I shall leave a person behind me, who will receive at an appointed place the account of all

those cases of oppression; and if I do not see justice done—if vengeance is not wreaked on the heads of these tyrants, to them and to you shall I give the power of depriving me for ever of that which I value most in this world, your esteem.—(Cheers.) Last night I told you, in the face of young Horrocks, that in the re-script, bull, or whatever else these Cotton Lords may choose to call the address which he issued to you, he declined standing a poll, as he found that promises had been made by the electors, and he would not have them violated. He did not know at that time that many of those promises had been made to me; but the moment he found out that, then he resolved that those promises should be broken—then he determined to have those pledges violated in favour of his friend Captain Barrie. I stated these facts to his face last night on these hustings, and he never dared to deny them. And yet that base, paltry, sycophantic lying thing,

called the *Preston Chronicle*,—(You mean the *Pilot*.)—No, the *Chronicle* says he did deny it. That base thing that could hear what Mr. Stanley said of me, could hear all that very well, but had a deaf ear for my reply; that wretched thing, that reptile of ink and dirty paper, that creature said that Horrocks denied my charge on the hustings. Did you hear him?—(Cries of no.)

Mr. WILCOCKSON (Editor of the *Chronicle*)—I certainly heard him.

Mr. COBBETT—No; you did not; and yet we are told that when Horrocks attempted to speak, his friends begged of him not to do so. Why, he reminds me of the Epitaph that was put over some very guilty person—for the very same words may be used with reference to Horrocks,

Lie still if you're wise,

You're d—d if you rise.

(Great laughing.) So his friends seem to think of Horrocks—he's wise if he holds his tongue; but open his mouth, and he's d—d.

If Horrocks is here now let him speak.

Mr. COBBETT then having bid the crowd good night, withdrew from the hustings, and after parading the streets, arrived at the Castle Inn, before which a large concourse had been collected.

The Reporter for this purpose, on going into the room, where from the beginning he had been permitted by Sir T. Beavor, to whom he had applied for the purpose, to take a place with other strangers, was met by Mr. Cobbett, who said to him, "I don't want you here, Sir—or any one from that d—d lying *Morning Herald*."

The Reporter then retired, and is unable of course to give a report of what was further said by Mr. Cobbett.

This proceeding against the Reporter appears to be the result of some alleged misrepresentation in the *Herald*. Mr. Cobbett's son early in the day mentioned to the Reporter that a mis-statement appeared in the *Herald*.

[From the *Morning Herald*, June 21.]

Preston, June 19, 1836.

The Mayor and different candidates having taken their places on the hustings,

Mr. COBBETT addressed his Worship.—I cannot, Sir, permit the polling to be resumed this morning without once more solemnly protesting against the mode of proceeding which you are now pursuing. You have erected these fortifications which I now see around me, for no other purpose than to prevent the honest electors of Preston from exercising the rights which belong to them. On Saturday last, a man presented himself at these hustings to poll, you refused to listen to him, and you ordered your constables to turn him back from the bar. I protest against this. I protest against all you are doing. These contrivances, Sir, enable you to tell beforehand for which of the candidates it is that any elector before you is about to vote; these contrivances, Sir, I

say, further enable you to cause the elector to undergo an examination, or to let him pass without one, according as the interests of the candidates for whom he is about to vote respectively seem to you to require. In short, Sir, they give you the power to cause to be put into Parliament any of the candidates whom you think it fit to return. Therefore, once more, against all these contrivances—these barriers—these bars—against all these obstacles to the free and unrestrained admission of the electors of Preston to the poll, I once more, and in the presence of all the people here assembled, do solemnly give in my protest. — (Cheers, and great uproar.)

The MAYOR — And I, in the presence of the same assemblage, do as solemnly declare, that I never gave any directions for the raising of these barriers. I have no knowledge of them. They were constructed solely by virtue of an agreement entered into between the candidates, you your-

self being one. We knew whom we had to deal with, so we took care not to take anything upon ourselves. (Hisses and applause.)

Mr. COBBETT—What, these bars!—these fortifications!

The MAYOR—No interruption, Sir. I left the mode of proceeding to be arranged entirely between the candidates. The arrangements which have been made, appear to answer very well. There has been no inconvenience felt on any side, and when you are absent, every thing has gone on with the greatest regularity. — (Uproar and hisses from the crowd in the area, mingled with applause from the hustings.)

Mr. COBBETT—I repeat that you have erected these bars and contrivances—I never was a party to their being raised—you caused them to be put up two days before the commencement of the election.—(Great confusion.)

The MAYOR—You like to be heard yourself, but you will not let any body else be heard; that

is your way. I repeat that the whole arrangements were left to yourselves. They have been productive of the greatest regularity, except when you are here. Now as to your insinuations, that I favour those in the interest of one candidate more than those who support another, why, every body present will bear me out in saying that my conduct here will admit of no such construction.—There is not a man here will attempt to say that I have shown partiality to any candidate. I know of no parties. I have no feelings in favour of one more than another—you are all the same to me.

Several of the electors, whose appearance did not warrant such a designation, gave in their certificates the word "Gentleman," as their description. This was at first objected to in some instances, but it was permitted to be adopted in the beginning. However, the instances of such an assumption having multiplied, it was resolved by the agents to require a

more defined description. The first or second elector who came from Mr. Wood's tally box having designated himself as a gentleman on his certificate, the agent of Capt. Barrie examined him.

What are you, Sir?—A gentleman.

How long are you a gentleman?—As long as you are.

Pray how long is that?—I am as much a gentleman as you were the other night, when you came with your men to insult us before Mr. Wood's window.

Have you not been a journeyman bricklayer?—Prove it if I be?

Well, does not your wife sell vegetables?—Yes, she does.

Has she not a stall in the market of Preston?—Yes, she has.

The MAYOR observed, that he was not very particular in general about the claims of any person to the designation of a gentleman; but then he thought it necessary that there should be

something in the appearance and way of life of the party so nearly approaching to the character of a gentleman, as to raise some pretence or another for assuming it. He did not mean to speak disrespectfully of the elector at the bar; but he really thought, that he would be very much misled if he were to take the character of a gentleman, as the means of quoting him in any subsequent inquiry, about a person, whose wife was in the habit of selling vegetables in the market.

ELECTOR.—She does not come up to poll.

AGENT.—We know that, but her husband does.

The MAYOR directed that the man should be set aside, in order to amend the description in the certificate by the substitution of some more definite expression.

The next elector having been asked, at the proper time, for whom he would vote?—replied, “For Mr. Cobbett, a plumper, and d—n all tyranny!” clenching his fist, and raising it, in a de-

fying manner, to the Mayor and the other candidates.

*Monday Evening.*

Mr. Cobbett took his departure this evening from town. He intimated before he went, that he wished to take the benefit of the sea air, that probably he would not return for a day, but that still the poll would be kept open.

Mr. Cobbett, as soon as the state of the poll was announced, addressed the electors as follows:

“Gentlemen, you are all aware that we now have a triple alliance of these Candidates, and the object of this triple alliance, as you all know likewise, is to keep me out of Parliament. But you are not all acquainted with the nature of the reward that is to be given to the members of this alliance. You know that only two can be seated; there are two seats, and only two can fill them. But I understand from London lately, that all three are to be rewarded.—(A laugh.) It is said in the first place, that the honour:



able, and very much spitten upon Mr. Stanley—(great laughter and cheers), is to be master of the ceremonies, he being such a favourite with the ladies—master of the ceremonies at the Opera-house, when a collection is to be made for the starving people of the manufacturing districts—(Great laughing, and cries of "10l," that being the amount of Mr. S.'s contributions to the Fund for the Relief of the Manufacturers); the starving people, I say, who are robbed of their dinners by the tax-eaters.—(Loud cheers.) His ensign of office is to be a banner with a starving weaver painted upon it, and a long robe of oil skin to clothe him, that the spittle that is thrown at him may not penetrate to his hide. (Great laughing and applause.)—Mr. Wood, I understand, is to be appointed to the office of high commissioner of the court of cant, the business of which is to consult as to the best means of fattening already fat negroes, and how to feed white slaves with pen, ink, and paper.

--(Shouts of laughter.) The orator of the court is to be Rushion, the newspaperman from Liverpool; and that the humanity of the court may be equal to its utility Harry Blackhurt is to be secretary—(Laughter.) Now, Gentlemen, as to the Captain, I hear, I do not say it is true, but I am informed that the Captain is to be made an Irish Peer—(Laughter) with remainder, in case of the failure at issue, that is to say, if he shall have no children, with remainder to one of his highest bred bull dogs, or to young Horrocks.—(Universal laughing, in which Mr. Horrocks himself heartily joined.) But, Gentlemen, I have now other news for you. I have this day had a communication from a friend in London, one whom I regard as the very highest legal authority, to whom I transmitted an account of these proceedings, transmitted copies of my different protests, together with plans of these hustings, exhibiting to him a view of all these pretty little contrivances

in the shape of bars and barriers, for turning majorities into minorities, and minorities into majorities. I have received an opinion from him upon the subject, which I will take the liberty of reading to you. "If the allegations contained in the documents, which you have laid before me, can be proved to be true: if these allegations can be but proved to be true, then the election is not worth one straw." —(Great cheering from the crowd in front of the hustings.) Yes, Gentlemen, every single allegation contained in these documents can be proved, will be proved to be true; and therefore this election is not worth one straw. Gentlemen, I have to tell you further, that I am advised by the same authority to be no longer a party to these proceedings. The polling shall still go on, mind.—(Applause—"Stick to 'em.") But acting under legal advice, I shall take care not to do any act, or say any word that can be construed into any thing like assent to the continuance of those bars and

contrivances to shut out the electors. Gentlemen, I had almost forgot; but there is a man here, his name is William —, who has been this day offered a sovereign if he would vote for Barrie and Stanley.—(Great uproar.) He was offered the sovereign by a man who yesterday voted for Mr. Stanley. Here is the man.

A man then mounted the hustings amidst the most deafening tumult, which rendered it impossible for any thing further to be heard of what passed in Mr. Cobbett's booth.

Mr. Cobbett and his party, as on the former days, remained to see the other candidates, with their respective friends retire, amidst hisses and groanings, in which he himself very loudly joined.

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[From the Morning Chronicle, June 21.]

The following is one of the placards, posted up during the present Election:—

2 C 2

"The Tyrants' Looking-glass; or the History and Mystery of Bribery, Perjury, and Corruption, practised during the present Election—Conducted by a Committee of Independent Gentlemen.

"ELECTORS OF PRESTON!—The advances of the enemy in the contest against the liberties of the people, which originated with the despots of the old coalition, is matured by its characteristic corruptions, and now boasting in its success assisted by tyranny and oppression, are such, as to call every man to his post—to warm the enthusiasm of those who are determined to be free—to endeavour to emancipate the slaves of intolerance—and to expose to public contempt and derision the base, abominable conduct of the Tyrants of Preston towards their workmen.

"To assist in accomplishing so salutary a work, a number of 'The Tyrants' Looking-glass' will be laid before the public every afternoon during the Election, containing a defence of the principles of freedom of Election, and of that liberty of conscience which is every man's birth-right—and a full exposure of the dirty deeds and nefarious conduct of the spinning masters, manufacturers, coal

merchants, \* \* \* —of the threatenings, promises, intimidations, which have been made use of to induce their servants to vote against their consciences—and a statement of the imbecility of tradesmen, shopkeepers, and others, who, from mercenary motives, are known to have done violence to their own feelings, and to have broken their engagements.

"As the object of this publication is not only to defend the invaluable principles of Liberty in theory, but to state instances of facts, in which that Liberty has been trampled upon, the friends of truth and independence are respectfully informed, that well-authenticated cases of this sort will be thankfully received every evening from seven to nine o'clock, at a room in Hodgons-court (opposite the end of Lune-street), Friargate; and it is earnestly requested that every person friendly to the independent cause in Preston, will render every assistance in his power, and report every case of oppression, in order that it may be made as public as possible.

"Can we sit still and see humanity trampled upon, and all sense of morality obliterated from the breasts of our brethren?—

Can we behold these persons groaning beneath their yoke, and robbed of their dearest rights, without attempting a successful struggle, in the glory and victory of which we shall all have reason to boast?—'If they had asked of me money,' said one, 'I would have given to the utmost of my power; if, for labour, I would have yielded it without any recompense for a time, even to privation; but to ask for that which is not mine to give, to demand the inviolable conclusions of the mind, to ask me to do violence to my conscience, is a request, the idea of complying with which makes the horrors of eternity thrill through my very soul!—I rest not night or day—I know not what to do.' And such, doubtless, are the feelings of hundreds of honest upright workmen in this town.

"If the interest of Captain Barrie had been supported by any thing like respectable conduct—if the electors had voted for him as the man of their choice, all parties connected with it would have been entitled to respect; and his supporters, instead of having their black deeds exhibited in the 'Looking-glass,' after a fruitless attempt again to render nugatory the elective power in this

Borough, might have retired with honour to themselves.

"As it is our wish to ascertain and publish facts which cannot be disputed, with a view to future numbers, we ask—Is it true that three men are actually turned without employment from a second-rate spinning concern, for not happening to be of the same mind with the masters? Is it true, that not only the men themselves are threatened to be thrown out of work, if they vote against the wishes of their masters; but children also, if their fathers (though they be weavers or labourers) will not consent to be led by the nose? Who are those pious, sincere, religious hypocrites, that have turned their coats for interest? Is it possible that some petty fasters have been hunting for votes for Barrie, through the scent which the late distribution of meal and potatoes has left?—More on Monday."

The following sentiments from the Address of S. Horrocks, Esq. jun. are so excellent, that we think our first number honoured by being made the means of again introducing them to the public:—

"His (my father's) sentiments coinciding with my own and many

of my friends, that the active canvass nearly concluded by the present candidates has given them a decided advantage, and holding promises of support to them inviolable, and also entertaining a wish that the peace and tranquillity of the town should not be interrupted, must be my excuse for declining on the present occasion the distinguished honour you are wishful to confer upon me."

We hope, after all the foul reports that have been circulated, consulting their own honour,—Messrs. Horrocks and Co. will continue to hold the promises of their workmen inviolable.

*Saturday, June 17, 1826.*

*State of the Poll at Twelve o'clock, Monday:—*

Stanley.	Wood.	Barrie.	Cobbett.
945	538	536	442
69	42	32	52
<hr/> 1,014	<hr/> 580	<hr/> 568	<hr/> 494

*Plumpers.*

Stanley	34
Barrie	4
Wood	82
Cobbett	379

**TO THE FREEHOLDERS  
OF  
THE COUNTY OF BERKS.**

GENTLEMEN,

I address a few lines to you, that I may not be considered unmindful of former favours; and submit some cursory observations on reform, my favourite topic, which, at this time of a general election, I hope may not be thought unseasonable; and, as coming from an old candidate, excusable.

My health, thank God, is much improved, but I am not sufficiently recovered to be tempted to seek, for the fifth time, a contest for the representation of Berkshire; and besides, a seat in the House of Commons is not "a bed of roses," calculated for any one, who is not quite arrived at a state of convalescence.

The intoxication, which a paper prosperity had excited, seems to have passed away, but has left men in a situation that generally succeeds inebriation, "vapid and sunk, from yesterday's debauch." The distress of our manufacturers,

and other classes, are dreadful in the extreme; but we, radical reformers, may console ourselves with knowing, that no acts of ours have created them.

You know, that we have been called Radicals, because we look to an effectual reform of the representation as a radical cure for the diseases that afflict our country. Unreformed Parliaments, said "to work well" by one of the Right Honourable Ministers, have encouraged an unbounded issue of false money; that is, money not made from the precious metals, but from what Ministers have recently called "worthless rags"—operating, so as to render it impossible for any person to say what his possessions were worth, for twenty-four hours together; and the faith of leases, and other contracts between man and man, has been equally affected.

All dealings, speciously called speculations, have had, for a number of years, a gambling tendency; not regulated like the steady commercial and farming transactions of our forefathers, who were contented with a moderate expectation of reward for their labours, and the use of their real capital, but by hopes of wild and inordinate gain, risking, as our lists of bankruptcies can vouch, the ruin

of themselves, their families, and neighbours.

The accursed paper, too, has loaded the country with a debt which can never, by honourable means, be satisfied; it has also introduced into every rank of society, a wanton, and luxurious mode of living, which seems to put every thing out of joint; and I much question, if ten men in a hundred are strictly solvent, could their whole concerns be nicely investigated.

You will recollect, a few years ago, it was asserted in the House of Commons, that "seats were bought and sold like stalls at a fair," and by a report in the *Morning Herald*, it was lately asked by a Member "was there a man in that House who did not pay for his seat, in money or otherwise, in meal or in malt?" and he added, "that there was not a Member returned for any great place, whose election did not cause a thousand infractions of the law," and that "the practice of corruption and bribery at elections was as notorious as it was unnoticed in this House."—(Hear, hear.)

Now, my friends, I trust you will agree, that for the safety of this Government, Legislators should not be the persons to set

examples of "infractions of the law; nor by encouraging bribery and corruption at elections," subvert every moral precept that is daily endeavoured to be impressed upon the minds of the people at our several churches, chapels, schools, and Bible societies; and I am very sure, you will go with me in hoping, that an honest inquiry may be forthwith instituted, not with a view to enact more severe laws, which only tend to make offenders more wary; nor to the punishment of individuals for past offences, but to the future prevention of crimes. To make the inquiry effective, an Act of Indemnity must first be passed, or witnesses would withhold the truth, upon the plea of risk to themselves, no man being bound to give evidence that shall convict himself. It may be said, that by such an inquiry, boroughs might be extended, and so the voters would be punished; but I deny that an extension of rights to the many can be a punishment to the few, unless a vote be the private property of an individual; that is, to be exercised for private purposes only, and if so, he would have a right to dispose of it for his own advantage; as well might it be said, that I have punished the Voters of Hampshire, by dis-

posing of above one hundred and thirty lots of freehold land in that county, the influence of the remaining freeholders being reduced by such sales.

It would considerably reduce the value of corruption, if some Members, suppose a third, were annually to vacate their seats, and by ballot. It would produce some of the good effects of Annual Parliaments, the check operating upon all, as no one could say, that he might not go before his constituents with an account of his conduct every year.

Each borough ought to be extended, so as to comprise at least 20,000 souls, and the right to vote allowed to every man who pays a direct, or indirect tax. To enable a plain country gentleman to stand a contest, whose estates are entailed, or he not wicked enough to beggar himself and his descendants, no agents ought to be suffered to interfere, or conveyances of votes paid for by a candidate, and every man's suffrage taken near to his own dwelling.

The Protestant Copyholder, or leaseholder, cannot now vote for a property of forty thousand pounds a year, whereas a Catholic may vote, if not tendered oaths, for a freehold of forty shillings a year. We want then a general emanci-

pation, not a partial or party question, but a right and true English question.

If it be correct, that Ministers, Peers, and others, actually appoint Members, under the semblance of an election, I would compromise the matter with them, and let them, in an open, manly way, name a certain number of Members, say, sixty. It is shocking to think of a man of rank, and a gentleman, trafficking in seats, by "trafficking in seats, by infractions of the law." The House of Commons is not a bad school for the eldest son of a Peer: "he may there get rid of too consequential notions of himself," that the nursery-maid, or the tutor may have instilled into his mind.

In wishing you, and your families, health and happiness, I do not think I can close this letter better, than by transcribing a few lines from the poet, Burns, whom I am very fond of—the spirit they convey will never disgrace the breast of an Englishman:

"The wretch that wad\* a tyrant own,  
And the wretch his true-born brother,  
Who would set the mob aboon the throne,  
May they be d—n'd together.  
Who will not sing, 'God save the King,'  
Shall hang as high's the steeple.  
But while we sing, 'God save the King,'  
We'll ne'er forget the People."

I remain, Gentlemen,  
Very sincerely,  
Your most obedient humble  
Servant,

WILLIAM HALLETT.

\* In the Scotch language, "wad" means would; "aboon" above.

London, June 1828.



## MARKETS.

**Average Prices of CORN through-  
out ENGLAND, for the week end-  
ing June 10.**

*Per Quarter.*

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	57	5	Rye ....	39	6
Barley ..	29	1	Beans ...	38	0
Oats ....	23	7	Pease ...	37	7

**Total Quantity of Corn returned as  
Sold in the Maritime Districts, for  
the Week ended June 10.**

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	35,230	Rye ....	208
Barley ..	4,537	Beans ...	2,385
Oats ...	24,887	Pease ...	319

*Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.*

**Quantities and Prices of British  
Corn, &c. sold and delivered in  
this Market, during the week ended  
Saturday, June 10**

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat..	4,649 for 13,884	0	3	Average,	59	8
Barley..	961 ..	1,342	17	7.....	27	11
Oats..	7,875 ..	10,330	9	7.....	26	2
Rye....	— ..	—	—	.....	—	—
Beans..	627 ....	1,212	15	6.....	38	10
Pease ..	144 ....	301	5	4.....	41	10

**Friday, June 16.**—The arrivals of the week are rather short, and having a thin attendance of buyers to-day, sales have been made very slowly. Prime Wheat has obtained the terms of Monday, but other qua-

lities have met scarcely any attention. In Barley, Beans and Oats, there is no alteration since the beginning of this week.

**Monday, June 19.**—There were moderate arrivals of all descriptions of Grain last week, but a large quantity of Flour. This morning the fresh supplies are again inconsiderable, but apparently quite sufficient for the present limited demand. The Millers again confined their attention to the best parcels of Wheat, for which they gave last week's prices; but for all other qualities, both English and Foreign, there was scarcely any trade.

Barley for Malting, nominally as last quoted; there is also but little doing in other sorts. For Beans and Pease there has been a trifling demand, and though few at Market, they cannot be quoted any higher. There are some partial accounts of the dry weather being unsuitable to the Oat crop, but no effect is produced thereby on our market; the trade for fine samples remains as last quoted; and all other kinds meet a dull sale. Rapeseed is lower. In Flour no alteration.

*Price on board Ship as under.*

Flour, per sack .....	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds .....	42s. — 46s.
— North Country ..	40s. — 43s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from June 12 to June 17, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat..	3,790	Tares ....	—
Barley ..	393	Linseed ..	583
Malt....	4,250	Rapeseed..	374
Oats ....	7,799	Brank ..	—
Beans... 738		Mustard..	—
Flour.... 9,218		Flax ....	—
Rye ....	—	Hemp ....	—
Pease.... 157		Seeds ...	—

Foreign.—Wheat, 1,093; Oats, 7,877; and Beans 756 quarters.

Price of Hops, per Cwt. in the Borough.

Monday, June 19.—The Bines continue to grow rapidly, though there is a partial appearance of fly, but they do not stick, owing to the dry state of the plant. Duty doing 165,000*l.* to 170,000*l.*; but little doing in old or new. Prices nominal

Maidstone, June 15—This hot and dry weather, although with wind in the East, appears just to suit the Hops, as the bines are growing very fast, look of a strong, healthy colour, and were never better; indeed we do not hear of any complaint whatever.

Worcester, June 14.—Scarcely any business was done in our market on Saturday; prices were nominal, at the last quotations. In some yards the fly increases; but upon the whole the reports are favourable.

Monday, June 19.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 151 firkins of Butter, and 3,049 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports, 5,636 casks of Butter.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, June 19.

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	4	0	to	4 10
Mutton ...	3	10	—	4 6
Veal .....	4	6	—	5 6
Pork .....	4	0	—	5 0
Lamb .....	5	0	—	6 0
Beasts ...	2,092		Sheep ..	20,360
Calves ...	246		Pigs ...	130

NEWGATE, (same day.)

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton ...	3	4	—	4 2
Veal ....	3	4	—	5 4
Pork .....	3	4	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	0	—	5 8

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

*Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef .....	3	2	to	4 2
Mutton ...	3	6	—	4 4
Veal .....	3	4	—	5 4
Pork .....	3	8	—	5 4
Lamb .....	4	0	—	6 0

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4*lb.* Loaf is stated at 9*d.* by the full-priced Bakers.

COAL MARKET, June 16.

<i>Ships at Market.</i>	<i>Ships sold.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
50½ Newcastle..	30½	25 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 34 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>
8 Sunderland	3	31 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> — 35 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>

## POTATOES.

## SPITALFIELDS, per Cwt.,

Ware .....	£20 0 to	28 0
Middlings.....	10 0 —	12 0
Chats .....	4 0 —	5 0
Common Red..	0 0 —	0 0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d.	per bush.	

## BOROUGH, per Cwt.

Ware .....	£20 0 to	30 0
Middlings.....	10 0 —	15 0
Chats .....	4 0 —	5 0
Common Red..	0 0 —	0 0

## HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....70s. to 95s.

Straw...34s. to 36s.

Clover. 85s. to 115s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 66s. to 100s.

Straw .. 33s. to 42s.

Clover ..95s. to 115s.

Whitechapel.—Hay....70s. to 90s.

Straw...30s. to 42s.

Clover ..90s. to 115s.

## COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Pease.	
	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.	s. to s. d.
Aylesbury .....	52	59 0	30	33 0	28	30 0	36	42 0	0	0 0
Banbury .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Basingstoke ....	52	61 0	26	29 0	22	27 0	45	50 0	0	0 0
Bridport .....	54	56 0	30	0 0	20	22 0	46	52 0	0	0 0
Chelmsford.....	56	68 0	30	32 0	26	31 0	36	39 0	38	41 0
Derby .....	58	64 0	30	34 0	26	31 0	44	48 0	0	0 0
Devizes.....	48	64 0	28	30 0	25	32 0	40	50 0	0	0 0
Dorchester.....	52	62 0	25	29 0	22	27 0	42	48 0	0	0 0
Exeter.....	60	64 0	34	38 0	23	28 0	28	32 0	0	0 0
Eye .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Guildford .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Henley .....	58	70 0	30	0 0	25	30 0	44	48 0	42	48 0
Horncastle.....	50	55 0	24	27 0	20	24 0	38	40 0	0	0 0
Hungerford.....	53	65 0	22	30 0	20	30 0	40	54 0	0	0 0
Lewes .....	52	60 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Newbury .....	42	67 0	27	30 0	24	32 0	44	48 0	0	0 0
Northampton....	52	58 0	30	32 0	22	25 0	39	42 0	0	0 0
Nottingham ....	57	0 0	29	0 0	25	0 0	43	0 0	0	0 0
Reading .....	55	72 0	27	33 0	19	27 0	44	50 0	43	50 0
Stamford.....	49	57 0	0	0 0	24	25 0	36	44 0	0	0 0
Stowmarket ....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Swansea .....	64	0 0	28	0 0	24	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Truro .....	64	0 0	35	0 0	29	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Uxbridge .....	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Warminster.....	48	60 0	25	34 0	22	26 0	46	50 0	0	0 0
Winchester.....	56	0 0	29	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0	0	0 0
Dalkeith* .....	27	32 0	19	23 0	18	21 6	19	21 0	17	19 0
Haddington* ....	24	30 6	18	23 0	18	22 6	15	20 0	15	20 0

\* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

**Banbury, June 16.**—Electioneering entirely absorbs our attention at this period. The appearance of one of the Candidates in our market yesterday, who had applied some unhandsome epithets to the Freeholders who had signed the requisition to G. F. Stratton, Esq., was the signal for a general uproar, which put a stop to all kinds of business, therefore it will be impossible to quote any regular prices this week.

**Birmingham, June 13.**—A moderate supply of Hay and Straw, and a little lower in price: Hay, 90s. to 95s.; Straw, 65s. to 70s. per ton.—June 15. A good show of Wheat and Barley at this day's market, and other sorts of Grain come rather sparingly. Beans sold freely; no alteration in price.—Wheat, 7s. 2d. to 7s. 8d. per 60lbs. Barley for malting, 33s. to 35s.; Malt, 56s. to 64s.; Pease, 44s. to 48s. per quarter, Winchester. Beans, 18s. to 19s.; and Grinding Barley, 15s. to 16s. per ten score. Oats, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. per 40lbs. Fine Flour, 48s. to 50s.; seconds, 44s. to 45s. per sack.

**Boston, June 12.**—Return of Corn bought in the week ending this day: Wheat, 1,453 qrs., 3 bush., (average 51s. 10d.); Oats, 3,212 qrs., 5 bush., (average 20s. 1d.); Beans, 103 qrs., 1 bush. (average 38s. 10d.) Corn shipped: Oats 2,565, Wheat 155, Rye 61 quarters.—June 14. There is a good supply of Wheat at market to-day, and rather lower terms are submitted to for it by the growers. Oats begin to fall off in quantity; and having a good demand for them in the interior, they are not lower. Beans are also in request at more money; the continuance of dry weather is supposed to affect the coming crop materially, as well as of Spring Corn generally.—Wheat, 50s. to 56s.; Oats, 18s. to 24s.; and Beans, 38s. to 40s. per quarter imperial. Flour, fine, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.; seconds, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6s.; thirds, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d.

**Hull, June 13.**—The trade in Wheat is dull, but the prices were not lower. Oats and Beans met a good demand, and the latter rather dearer; and there is more inquiry for Grinding Barley. Foreign Oats and Beans are in more request, and fully support the prices quoted. The Spring crops in this district are evidently looking very unfavourable.—Wheat, New, 55s. to 57s.; Barley, New, 24s. to 28s.; Oats, New, 19s. to 24s.; Beans, New, 37s. to 40s.; Tares, Foreign, 22s. to 26s.; and Linseed, 30s. to 34s. per quarter. The importations of last week are as under:—Coastwise; Wheat 1384, Beans and Pease 166, and Barley 150 quarters.

**Leeds, June 14.**—There was a good supply of Wheat, but only middling of other Grain at market. Fine Wheat was dull sale at 1s. per quarter decline, and secondary samples were full 1s. to 2s. per quarter lower. Oats and Shelling were also dull, and rather cheaper. In Beans and Rapeseed there was no alteration.

**Edinburgh, June 14.**—We had a fair supply of Wheat for the season, and prices nearly the same as last week. A very small supply of Barley, but no alteration in price.

**Waterford, June 13.**—The supply of Grain to our market this week is not worth notice. The trifling quantity that did appear was composed chiefly of Oats, which was purchased by Millers and Stable-keepers. The price of Grain for export is merely nominal, as merchants are not purchasers at present, the supply being scarcely sufficient for home consumption. Nothing doing in Barley; the holders, many of whom laid in their stocks at a dear rate, are unwilling to submit to present prices. Flour and Oatmeal on the advance, and in good demand.

*Liverpool*, June 13.—The importations of Wheat during the past week have been very moderate; sales, however, were effected to a fair amount, and principally so of the Foreign Wheats, now released from bond, at fully the prices last noted. The demand for Oats having increased, an advance of 1*d.* per 45 lbs. was easily obtained. Flour was at an advance of 1*s.* per 280 lbs.; and Oats retained the advance already noted. Other articles of the trade were dull, at prices last quoted.

Imported into *Liverpool* from the 6th to the 12th June, 1826; inclusive:—Wheat, 1,844; Barley, 232; Oats, 8,468; Malt, 469; and Beans, 411 quarters. Flour, 1,005 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 1,773 packs, per 240 lbs.

*Guildford*, June 17.—Wheat, new, for meal, 13*l.* to 18*l.* 10*s.* per load. Barley, 30*s.* to 35*s.*; Oats, 26*s.* to 34*s.*; Beans, 43*s.* to 49*s.*; and Pease, grey, 46*s.* to 48*s.* per quarter.

*Norwich*, June 17.—We had a liberal supply of Wheat to-day, quite equal to the demand; prices of Red, from 48*s.* to 54*s.*; White, 56*s.*; a few samples of Barley only were sold, prices from 22*s.* to 26*s.*; Oats, 22*s.* to 27*s.*; Beans, 36*s.* to 39*s.*; Peas, 37*s.* to 40*s.* per quarter; and Flour, from 42*s.* to 43*s.* per sack.

*Wisbeach*, June 17.—There was again a good show of Wheat, which was 1*s.* per quarter lower. Beans made rather more money. In Oats no alteration.—Red Wheat, 50*s.* to 55*s.*; White ditto, 55*s.* to 57*s.*; Oats, 20*s.* to 24*s.*; and Beans, 38*s.* to 40*s.* per quarter.

*Wakefield*, June 16.—There is a good supply of Wheat fresh up here to-day, and a fair attendance of buyers; the best samples have been taken off at last week's prices, but stale and inferior sorts meet very dull sale, as well as the released Foreign, of which some quantity is offering here to-day. The supply of Oats is tolerable, amongst which are several cargoes of Foreign out of Bond, which sell at 12*d.* to 13*d.* per stone as in quality, and good fresh English maintain last Friday's prices; Shelling is scarce and in demand, but not dearer. There is a good demand for Beans at an advance of 1*s.* per quarter.—Wheat, Red, 47*s.* to 61*s.*; White, 50*s.* to 64*s.* per 60 lbs.; Barley, 26*s.* to 28*s.*; fine, 30*s.* per quarter; Beans, small, 41*s.* to 44*s.*; tick, 38*s.* to 41*s.* per 63 lbs.; Oats, Meal, new, 12½*d.* to 13½*d.* per stone; Shelling, new, 31*s.* to 33*s.*; and Malt, 32*s.* to 40*s.* per load. Flour, fine, 45*s.* to 47*s.* per sack of 280 lbs. Rapeseed, 14*l.* to 19*l.* per last.

*Manchester*, June 17.—Since this day se'nright we have had a fair demand for leading articles in the trade, and a moderate degree of business has been effected; in some instances at a trifling advance, but the continued pressure of the times, produces a degree of caution, which confines transactions to the mere impulse of necessity. We had an indifferent attendance on Change to-day, but a tolerable shew of fine samples, few of which had found purchasers at the close of the market. Wheats move off slowly at our late quotations. Oats are from ½*d.* to 1*d.* per bushel dearer; but this advance being very reluctantly complied with, of course, limited the progress of sales.—Wheat, English, 56*s.* 3*d.* to 68*s.* 7*d.*; Irish, 53*s.* 8*d.* to 65*s.* 1*d.*; Foreign, 48*s.* to 62*s.* 10*d.*; Barley, 26*s.* 2*d.* to 27*s.* 2*d.*; Oats, Irish, 23*s.* 8*d.* to 26*s.* 1*d.*; Pease, 44*s.* to 56*s.* per quarter, Winchester; Beans, English, 46*s.* to 50*s.*; Irish, 45*s.* to 47*s.* per quarter, 69 lbs. per bushel; Malt, 32*s.* to 43*s.* per load of six imperial bushels; Flour, 37*s.* to 50*s.* per bag of 280 lbs.; Oatmeal, English, 32*s.* to 35*s.*; Irish, 28*s.* to 35*s.* per load of 240 lbs.; Bran, broad, 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per 20 lbs.

## COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &amp;c.

*Birmingham Smithfield Market, June 15.*—The supply moderate, very little done, and all kinds rather lower.—Beef, 5½d. to 6¾d.; Mutton, 5½d. to 6½d.; Lamb, 6d. to 7d.; Veal, 5d. to 7d. per lb. Pigs, 7s. to 8s. per score. Many Horses, but very few good ones, and not many sold. Neat Cattle, 265; Sheep, 766; and Pigs, 722.

*Wakefield Cattle Market, June 14.*—There was a full supply of Stock to this day's market; and although there was a numerous attendance of buyers, the trade was very dull at a reduction in prices, and many of both sorts remained unsold.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s.; a few prime, 7s. 6d. per stone. Mutton, 5d. to 5½d. per lb.—Beasts, 320; Sheep, 8800.

*Edinburgh, June 14.*—The supply of Sheep in the market this day was larger than last week (650).—Wethers, white-faced, from 26s. to 33s.; black-faced, from 23s. to 30s. Ewes, white-faced, from 22s. to 28s. Lambs were plenty (970), which sold from 9s. to 17s. A few young Sheep from 16s. to 22s.; a dull sale.—The supply of Cattle was much the same as last week (130); prices rather lower; best from 6s. 6d. to 7s. 9d.; inferior, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. Part remained unsold.

*Glasgow, June 12.*—There were 257 Black Cattle in the market to-day. Sales were dull, but prices no lower than for some weeks past. There were 1030 Sheep and Lambs. Black-faced Wethers sold from 21s. to 26s.; best white-faced ditto at from 31s. to 42s. Lambs from 5s. to 17s.; current prices from 9s. to 12s. a head.

*Norwich Cattle Market, June 17.*—The supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was large, and more than equal to the demand—prices from 7s. to 7s. 3d. per stone of 14lbs. sinking offal. The supply of Store Stock was also abundant; Scots sold from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone when fat; we had a great many Short Horns, some of them of excellent quality, which sold from 3s. to 3s. 9d. per stone.

*Horncastle, June 17.*—Beef, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 7d. to 8d.; and Veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

*Manchester, June 14.*—There was a moderate supply of Cattle, Sheep, and Lambs at this day's market, which met dull sale at a trifling reduction in prices.—Beef, 6d. to 6½d.; Mutton, 5½d. to 6½d.; Lamb, 5½d. to 6½d.; Veal, 6d. to 7½d.; and Pork, 5½d. to 6d. per lb. sinking offal.

At *Morpeth Market*, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., there was a good many Cattle, which met with ready sale, at a little advance in prices. There was a full market of Sheep and Lambs, and fat of the latter sold readily; prices rather lower.—Beef, from 6s. 9d. to 6s. 9d.; Mutton, 7s. to 7s. 9d.; and Lamb, 8s. to 9s. per stone, sinking offal.

**AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of  
England and Wales, for the Week ended June 10, 1826.**

	<i>Wheat.</i>		<i>Barley.</i>		<i>Oats.</i>	
	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
London*.....	59	6	28	11	26	5
Essex .....	60	5	30	7	26	5
Kent.....	59	6	29	8	24	7
Sussex.....	56	4	30	7	24	10
Suffolk .....	55	3	28	9	26	4
Cambridgeshire.....	54	4	27	7	22	8
Norfolk .....	53	8	25	0	28	4
Lincolnshire .....	35	1	28	10	21	0
Yorkshire .....	55	0	26	2	21	2
Durham .....	58	2	26	4	28	10
Northumberland .....	54	11	30	4	24	10
Cumberland .....	60	11	28	6	23	3
Westmoreland .....	63	8	37	0	24	11
Lancashire.....	60	11	0	0	25	0
Cheshire .....	61	3	0	0	24	5
Gloucestershire.....	58	6	31	3	25	7
Somersetshire .....	57	9	36	3	22	7
Monmouthshire.....	58	8	35	0	26	8
Devonshire.....	58	6	28	11	21	5
Cornwall.....	62	7	31	10	24	5
Dorsetshire .....	55	6	26	11	25	2
Hampshire .....	54	6	28	10	24	1
North Wales .....	61	6	34	6	19	3
South Wales ...	57	1	28	8	21	4

\* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

**END OF VOL. LVIII.**

















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Cobbett's weekly register.



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